REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

HYDERABAD ASSIGNED DISTRICTS,

FOR THE YEAR 1868-69.

BY

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RESIDENT AT THE COURT OF HYDERABAD.

HYDERABAD:

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BENGAL SECRETARIAT LIBRARY.

REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

HYDERABAD ASSIGNED DISTRICTS,

FOR

1868-69.

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INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.

Revision of District Boundaries.

THE partition of the Hyderabad Assigned Districts into East and West Berar was noticed in the last Administration Report, and it was then mentioned that the Eastern Division comprised the Districts of Oomrawuttee, Ellichpore, and Woon; while the Western contained only two Districts, Akolah and Mehkur. On the 1st April 1868, the Poosud Talook, with some other Purgunnahs, was detached from East Berar, and a sixth District formed, with head-quarters at Bassim; the result being a revision of the boundaries of the old Akolah, Mehkur, and Woon Districts. At the same time, the head-quarters of the Mehkur District were removed to a more centrical position at Booldanah, and the designation of that District was changed from Mehkur to Booldanah. The Talooks, or

Sub-divisions, included in the six Districts as thus constituted are shown in the following Statement, in which also for the sake of convenience, figures as to area, population, and land revenue, are inserted :—

Districts.	Talooks.	Area. Square miles.	Population.	Average No. to each square mile.	Land Revenue.
					Rs. A. P.
EAST BERAR.					
Oomrawuttee.....	1. Oomrawuttee....	2,643	407,276	154	6,42,470 10 8
	2. Chandore				
	3. Moortazapore				
Ellichpore	1. Ellichpore	2,772	344,358	124	9,29,024 15 10
	2. Durriapore				
	3. Morsee				
	4. Mailghaut				
Woon	1. Woon	4,232	343,426	81	3,07,500 15 0
	2. Yeotmal				
	3. Dharwa				
WEST BERAR.					
Akolah	1. Akolah	2,666	449,155	168	15,45,099 1 7
	2. Ballapore				
	3. Julgaon				
	4. Akote				
Booldanah	1. Chicklee	2,815	400,095	142	7,69,357 13 0
	2. Mehkur				
	3. Mulcapoor				
Bassim*	1. Bassim	1,832	275,764	150	3,02,419 14 5
	2. Poosud				
Total ...		16,960	2,220,074	131	44,95,873 6 6 (£449,587)

The areas are only approximate—that is, they have not been ascertained by scientific survey. The Census taken in 1867 was the first attempt made to number the population: the figures then obtained are here given for Oomrawuttee and Ellichpore: the population of the remaining Districts is taken from a return recently submitted, and which shows that the Census figures are now below the mark. Altogether, there would seem reason to believe that the actual areas and population, especially in East Berar, are in excess of what is here stated.

* It is to be noted that the Bassim District is under the charge of an Assistant Commissioner, who wields, with some slight limitation, the powers of a Deputy Commissioner.

CHAPTER I.

JUDICIAL.

SECTION I.—CIVIL JUSTICE.

Number of Suits filed.

2. The number of suits filed was 16,867, against 12,241 in 1867. Increase of 38 per cent. thus appears, the percentage being 67 in East, and 22 in West Berar. To show the extent to which the increase is due to the three Small Cause Courts, (two of which were opened during the year,) it may be stated that if their figures be withdrawn, then litigation has increased by 23 per cent. in East, and by 11 per cent. in West Berar.

Detailed Statistics.

3. The suits instituted in the several Districts; the proportion they bear to the population; with the value of the property litigated, are thus shown:—

DISTRICTS.	Suits filed in 1868.	On total Population.	Value of Property litigated.	Average value per Suit.
EAST BERAR.			Rs. A. P.	Rs.
Oomrawuttee ...	3,312	1 to 123 persons	5,67,108 13 2	171
Ellichpore .	2,915	1 to 118 „	3,02,905 1 3	104
Woon ...	873	1 to 393 „	74,132 10 9	85
Total...	7,100	1 to 154 persons	9,44,146 9 2	133
WEST BERAR.				
Akolah ...	7,427	1 to 60 persons	6,58,498 0 4	89
Booldanah ...	1,802	1 to 222 „	1,90,911 5 2	106
Bassim ...	538	1 to 512 „	85,959 7 10	160
Total...	9,767	1 to 115 persons	9,35,368 13 4	96
Grand Total...	16,867	1 to 132 persons	18,79,515 6 6 (£187,951)	111

Here decrease is only to be observed with regard to the average value of each suit: but this point scarcely deserves comment, as Rupees 111 (£11-2) is by no means a low average.

Increasing litigation in Akolah, and generally in other Districts.

What will attract attention is the fact that the excessive litigation in Akolah remarked on last year, has advanced rather than abated,

notwithstanding that by the transfer of the Mulcapoor Talook to Booldanah, the District was reduced to the extent of 850 square miles, and 762,204 souls. After what has already been written on this subject, it may suffice to say that the people of Akolah have a special fondness for going to law, which is being imbibed by other Districts also: they have had more opportunities of gratifying this taste than are available in other Districts, and are always being stirred up by the many Pleaders who infest the Province —but of whom it is fair to add that some general improvement has latterly been recorded. Usurious money lending is said to be the source of most civil actions: "probably it is more convenient for the Banker to file his suit in Court than to send an Agent to dun debtors, who usually cannot pay, and often would not if they could." The Commissioner of East Berar writes:—"The returns show steadily increasing litigation, and yet the people cry out for more Courts. Trade in Berar is increasing enormously, and with a large increase in transactions, comes a concomitant increase in litigation. Much has been done to render a resort to our Courts unnecessary. The people are encouraged to draw up written bonds or agreements. The registration of deeds has been introduced throughout the Province. The high rate of institution stamp must, to a certain degree, make a man pause at the threshold of a Court-house."

Stamp duty and costs of litigation.

4. Last year, it was thought by some Officers in East Berar, that the high stamp fees had unduly diminished litigation. It may be that "a high rate of stamp duties mainly keeps out of the Courts those very poor persons who most require the law's aid;" but with regard to those who do come into our Courts, the experience of the past year would seem to show that increased costs—presumedly due to the operation of the Stamp Act throughout the year 1868, whereas the Act was at work during only half the year 1867—have had little appreciable influence on the number of suits filed. The rates for the service of Civil process (Talabana) have lately been reduced 50 per cent.

Percentage of costs on value of suits.

1864.	1865.	1866.	1867.	1868.
Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
10 14 5	9 15 7	17 0 0	10 12 0	15 7 5

Number of suits filed.

8,117	6,658	10,099	12,241	16,867

Nature and decisions of Suits.

5. The nature of the original suits filed may be described by saying that about 84 per cent. are ranged under the heads of Simple Loan, Debt on Account, and Breach of Contract.

They were disposed of as follows:—

	Per Cent.
Decreed for Plaintiff	73·68
„ Defendant	5·27
Compromised	18·36
Withdrawn	·53
Struck off in default of attendance	2·16

Increase in number of Courts.

6. There have been more Courts than in 1867, (another reason for more suitors,) the number of Tehseeldars invested with Judicial powers having risen from 8 to 12. Small Cause Courts were also called into existence at Ellichpore (on 6th January) and at Khamgaon (on 30th September).

Average duration of Suits, &c.

7. The duration of cases has been lessened, but is still too high in some Courts. The average was 20·3 days, against 22·8 in 1867. But this average includes that of the Small Cause Courts, which was about 9 days. In the majority of Courts with minor jurisdiction, greater rapidity in the disposal of suits need hardly be urged, as perhaps the tendency is rather to hurry than to delay.

The average period for which each witness was detained was 3·5 days. In 1867 it was 4·1 days.

The number of suits pending at the close of the year was 490.

Distribution of Suits.

8. The distribution of the work brought before the Courts may be seen from the following Statement:—

EAST BERAR.	Deputy Commissioners.	Assistant Commissioners and Extra Assistant Commissioners.	Judicial Extra Assistant Commissioners.	Tehseeldars.	Judges, Small Cause Courts.	Total.
Number of Courts	*3	6	2	5	2	18
Number of Cases disposed of	48	204	3,125	1,201	2,584	7,162
Average number of cases disposed of by each Court per month	2	2·8	130·2	20	108	35
WEST BERAR.						
Number of Courts	†2	7	2	7	1	19
Number of Cases disposed of	10	1,299	6,154	1,209	799	9,471
Average per month as above	·416	15·46	256·41	14·39	199·15	41·5

* The Deputy Commissioner of Woon had no original cases before him.

† Bassim is in charge of an Assistant Commissioner.

which, while speaking to more business in the Western than in the Eastern Division, gains everywhere—in some respects considerably—by comparison with the figures of 1867. Then the total number of cases disposed of by 32 Courts of original jurisdiction was 11,291. We have here 16,633 cases disposed of by 36 Courts.

Remarks on above.

9. As usual, the bulk of the original work (56* per cent.) has been performed by the Judicial Extra Assistant Commissioners, who are all efficient Native Officers, and are engaged entirely in the hearing of Civil suits. Their jurisdiction extended to suits not exceeding Rupees 300 in value. The Argaon Court (Akolah District) disposed of no less than 3,437 cases, averaging in value Rupees 72 each. The Tehseeldars have so much revenue and miscellaneous work, that the number of cases decided by them can scarcely, I think, be regarded as insufficient :—a remark which will hardly apply to the suits disposed of by the Assistant Commissioners in East Berar.

Small Cause Courts.

10. The Small Cause Courts have worked well. That at Khamgaon—the large cotton mart, and a place growing in importance—though only open during three months of the year under review attracted 899 suits, of which the Judge disposed of 799. At Oomrawuttee 1,851 cases were decided, against 511 in 1867; and at Ellichpore there were 733 cases disposed of during the first year of the Court's existence.

Appellate Business.--District Courts.

11. The number of appeals preferred in the District Courts has fallen :—

	1867.	1868.	Pending at close of year.
West Berar... ...	327	308	25
East Berar	310	189	5

205 came before the Akolah District Court. Decisions of the Lower Courts were reversed in 124 out of 489, the percentage of reversal being about 24 in West, and 26 in East Berar,—a result rather behind than in advance of the preceding year. Mr. Lyall gives the District Judges of his Division a useful caution when he reminds them that Native Judges of the lower grades often arrive at "sound conclusions by very imperfectly expressed reasoning; so that an Appellate Court which reviews their judgments too logically is tempted to upset what may be a very good finding on the general facts and color of the case.".

* 70 per cent., excluding suits in Small Cause Courts.

The average duration of suits in appeal ranged from 44½ days in Ellichpore, to 21 days in Woon.

In the Western Division, it was 33 days as in 1867, while East Berar showed a divisional average of 31 days against 45 in the previous year. It is hoped that still further promptitude will be attained, though with lower Courts and Ministerial Subordinates yet in want of much practice and training, the Appellate Courts often have occasion, and do well, to exercise the power of remand freely.

Commissioners' Courts.

12. In the Commissioners' Courts, 130 appeals were disposed of out of 141 preferred. Nearly half were Special Appeals—that is, appeals against the *appellate* decisions of District Courts. The fact that about 30 per cent. of these proved wholly successful is not very satisfactory.

The average duration has decreased considerably, having been 62 days in East, and 69 days in West Berar, against 174 and 99 days in 1867.

The small number of appeals (30) pending at the close of the year marks a very satisfactory improvement over former years.

Resident's (Sudder) Court.

13. Fifty-five appeals were lodged in the Resident's Court, 35 of which were inadmissible; of the remainder, judgment was confirmed in 18 cases, and modified in one,—one case remained undisposed of.

Imprisonment for Debt.

14. It is satisfactory to note that the number of persons imprisoned for debt declined from 888 in 1867, to 580 in 1868, at the close of which year, 33 persons were so imprisoned. It has been the aim of the Administration to discourage resort to imprisonment by creditors for realizing their decrees, but Mr. Lyall notes that "they are very prone to exercise this power as a sharp and effectual method of coercion."

Execution of Decrees.

15. The statistics regarding execution of decrees have, I regret to say, been too incompletely rendered to admit of notice at present. The return laid down by the Statistical Committee, and adopted in other Provinces, has been prescribed.

Quality of Judicial work.

16. In respect to the quality of the work thus briefly reviewed, I have again to repeat the testimony recorded in my last Report that it is on the whole

fairly good, and is improving every year. The District and Divisional Reports bear witness to intelligence and zeal on the part of the minor Courts, which seldom have to deal with cases demanding a knowledge of law beyond that which the Judges have at their fingers' ends; and I have reason to think that the work and supervision of the Officers of the higher grades are quite on a par with any expectations that may have been formed by the Government.

SECTION II.—REGISTRATION OF DEEDS.

Registration of Deeds and Assurances.

17. The operations of this Department, which must doubtless exercise an important check upon litigation, though the effects may hardly yet be visible, are thus briefly abstracted:—

Optional Registrations.....	3,766
Compulsory „	2,131
Total.....	5,897

There were 6 District Registrars, and 17 Sub-Registrars, (Tehseeldars). The latter registered 5,853 instruments, nearly the whole of the business recorded. The excess of optional over compulsory registrations (about 76 per cent.) seems a favourable sign as to (in the words of the Registrar General) "the popularity of the Act, the fitness of the rules in force for its application, and the just incidence of the fees demanded."

A more extended appreciation of the benefits of registration is confidently expected.

Financial Results.

18. The financial results are thus stated by the Registrar General:—"The receipts during the year (10 months) aggregated Rupees 12,341-5-1 (£1,234), while the expenditure, including printing, cost of Stationery, &c., amounted to Rupees 16,075-10-3 (£1,607), but stock in hand equals value Rupees 3,500 (£350), [as iron-safes, almirahs, Chubb locks, &c.,] and the receipts then equal Rupees 15,841-5-1 (£1,584), and thus the deficit for the first year is only Rupees 234-5-2 (£23);

but this report being for 10 months only, a full year would have shown a surplus, and next year, I confidently expect a considerable surplus over expenditure."

SECTION III.—CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

General Remarks.

19. The Register of Crime calls for little special comment. It shows increase both of heinous and petty offences, but this increase is, generally speaking, not more than may naturally be accounted for by a year of unusual hardship to the poorer classes. A serious outbreak of dacoitee in the northern part of the Woon District, and in the southern adjoining parts of the Oomrawuttee District, was traced to a few Brinjara Tandas of bad repute: though handled with but partial success by the Police, the information since obtained, followed by the conviction of some of the criminals concerned, and of the receivers of the stolen property, has led to a cessation of the crime in a part of the country where it had long been frequent. In no instance was murder perpetrated in dacoitee. Many of the dacoities committed were of a very trifling nature.

The murders reported are slightly in excess of those recorded in any year since 1864. In 17 cases sufficient evidence was obtained to bring the accused to trial: in 12 of these, conviction ensued. The large increase in thefts does not appear to denote that amount of criminality which the figures alone might seem to indicate. "In many instances"—writes the Deputy Commissioner of Woon,—a wild district where thefts were frequent owing to a scarcity which at one time wore a somewhat threatening aspect—"well behaved persons have been brought before the Criminal Courts for appropriating a head or two of the standing crop."

Further, it should be added with reference to the Criminal Statistics of the past year that some improvement in the registration of crime has been attempted, (as will be explained in the Section on Police,) which must have brought on to the roll crime that would otherwise have passed unregistered.

Number of Offences.

20. The number of offences of all kinds reported to have occurred is, thus compared with the previous year:—

	Not cognizable by Police.	Cognizable by Police.	Total.
1867 ...	2,042	4,542	6,584
1868 ...	2,655	5,801	8,456
Increase...	613	1,259	1,872

I regret to note that certain discrepancies in the Returns of the District Officers and those of the Police, which affect not only the figures of the past, but also those of the preceding year, throw some doubt on the accuracy of the totals here given. It is now only possible to prevent the recurrence of this blemish in future Reports: but I would observe that the total number of offences which occurred in 1867 is now shown, by the addition of a large number of non-cognizable cases, of which the Police had no information, to be 7,612, instead of 6,584: so that it may fairly be asserted that the *increase* now apparent is not real, to a large extent.

Increase and Decrease.

21. Increase in crime cognizable by the Police is shown principally under the following heads:—

Attempts to commit suicide	.....	37
Thefts	.....	774
Mischief with aggravating circumstances	.....	47
House-breaking by day and night	.....	243
Attempts do.....	.....	48
Gambling Act*	.....	33
Total	.....	1,182

While decrease is chiefly noticeable of nuisances under the Police and Municipal Acts, which fell from 950 in 1867 to 752 in 1868.

* This Act was only introduced during 1868.

Heinous Crime.

22. A table showing crimes of the graver sort during the past five years is subjoined:—

Crimes.	1864.	1865.	1866.	1867.	1868.	Remarks.
Murder (not in dacoitee or robbery)	24	20	17	17	26	
Attempts at do. ...	18	11	4	4	11	
Murder in dacoitee ...	7	2	2	*2	...	* One more reported since.
Do. in robbery	not known	4	5	3	6	
Dacoitee (without murder) ...	198	37	19	34	†48	† Including two attempts.
Robbery on the highway ...	225	62	43	50	40	
Do. do. simple ...	...	...	...	...	‡16	‡ In the figures for 1864, 1865, 1866, and 1867, are included simple robberies.
Total...	472	136	90	110	147	

Ratio of Crime to Population.

23. The ratio of crime to population is shown as follows:—

One cognizable offence to	...	383 souls.
One non-cognizable offence to	...	836 ,,
One offence of every kind to	...	263 ,,

As stated in the last Report, the vast majority of offences was of a very petty sort.

Property Stolen and Recovered.

24. Property stolen aggregated Rupees 2,19,948 (£21,994) in value, of which Rupees 47,718 (£4,771) were recovered; the percentage of recovery being considerably diminished by the occurrence of two crimes in each of which more than Rupees 10,000 (£1,000) were stolen, and nothing was recovered.

Percentage of value *recovered* to value *stolen*:—

1865.	1866.	1867.	1868.
21·4	29	29·84	21·7

Action of the Courts.

25. The action of the Courts may be seen from the following Statement:

DIVISIONS.	Commissioners (Sessions) Court.	Deputy Commissioners.	Assistant Commissioners.	Extra Assistant Commissioners.	Tehseeldars and Naib Tehseeldars.	Total.
East Berar.						
Number of Courts	1	3	6	3	19	32
Number of cases disposed of	29	*159	476	141	2,932	3,737
Number of convictions (cases)	not given	50	338	94	1,875	2,357
Percentage of acquittals (do.) ...	Do.	43	30	41	32	...
Average number of cases decided per month by each Court	2	4	6	4	13	...
Average duration of cases ... Days	2	9	7	10	5	...
West Berar.						
Number of Courts	1	†2	12	3	19	28
Number of cases disposed of	28	*119	481	77	1,904	2,609
Number of convictions (cases) ...	22	88	290	70	1,305	1,775
Percentage of acquittals (do.)... ...	21·7	24	33	9	32	...
Average number of cases decided as above ...	2	5	3	2	16	...
Average duration of cases ... days	not given	21	7	2	3	...

and may be summed up by saying that in 6,346 cases brought before 60 Courts with varying degrees of jurisdiction from that of a Subordinate Magistrate, 2nd Class, to that of a Sessions Judge, conviction ensued in 70 cases out of every hundred brought to trial, 7,480 persons being punished. Of this number, more than 66 per cent. were let off with simple fine; and 43 per cent. of the fines inflicted were for breach of special and local laws. Of those imprisoned, nearly 87 per cent. were sentenced to short terms not exceeding six months. 84 persons were flogged: this punishment might perhaps have been resorted to more freely by those authorized to administer it.

* Of these, 99 cases were decided under Act XV of 1862.

† Bassim is in charge of an Assistant Commissioner, and he does not exercise powers under Act XV of 1862.

Penal results.

26. The table of penal results is here entered:—

Years.	Hanged.	Transported.	Imprisoned 7 to 5 years.	Do. 5 years.	Do. 3 years.	Do. 2 years.	Do. 1 year.	Do. under 6 months.	Fined.	Flogged.	Total punished.
1866	2	6	7	8	16	107	154	1,580	3,619	100	5,599
1867	10	12	20	42	36	139	157	1,764	4,420	112	6,712
1868	7	15	32	24	24	111	123	2,087	4,973	84	7,480

Detention of Witnesses.

27. The periods for which witnesses were detained are also tabulated, the result again testifying to their early discharge: the number of those detained to give evidence for more than a single day, was not more than 14 per cent:—

Total number of witnesses.	Detained for 1 day.	For 2 days.	For 3 days.	For 4 days.	For 5 days.	Over 5 days.
18,235	15,760	1,623	485	170	143	56

Criminal Appeals.

28. There were 55 Appeals preferred before the Deputy Commissioners. The orders of the Lower Courts were upheld in 40, and reversed in 15

42 Appeals came before the Commissioners, who reversed 4 decisions, modified 8, and confirmed 30.

Sessions Trials.

29. The number of cases tried by the Sessions Courts at Akolah and Oomrawuttee, has increased from 26 to 60—29 of these were disposed of by the Commissioner of East Berar, and 28 by the Commissioner of West Berar, leaving three cases pending before the latter.

Resident's (Sudder) Court.

30. Of 16 Appeals to the Sudder Court of the Resident, ten were rejected as inadmissible, judgment was upheld in five, and reversed in one.

SECTION IV.--POLICE.

Berar a difficult Police charge.

31. Berar has been rightly termed "a difficult Police charge, with a large floating population attracted from other Provinces by Railway works, and a flourishing cotton trade, causing a rapid circulation of silver." There is little turbulence to quell: the inhabitants of the country are generally of a peaceable disposition, and obedient to the law; but their extreme want of both courage and caution, even to protect their own, is a constant temptation to the evil-disposed.

Strength of Force and Cost.

32. The Police Force consists of an Inspector General, six European Superintendents of Districts, and two Assistant Superintendents:—

16	Inspectors,
94	Chief Constables,
314	Head Constables,
2,088	Constables (Foot),
40	Camel Sowars.
Total...	2,552

We have thus one Foot Policeman to every 1,049 of the population; but a large proportion is employed on special guards, and is, therefore, not available for *general* Police duty. Set apart too from the strength above detailed for duty as Railway Police are 9 Head Constables and 39 Constables,—a detail which represents the increase to the force accorded during the year 1868. The total cost is thus compared:—

1867-68.				1868-69.
Rs.	A.	P.		Rs.
4,37,342	11	8	.....	4,68,548
(£43,734.)			.....	(£46,854.)

And the increase of expenditure is accounted for by the charges for the Establishment of the Ellichpore District having been paid for only 5 months of 1867-68: while the Police Establishment for the Bassim District was not entertained till June 1868. The Railway Police, as just noted, form an additional charge for the year under report.

In looking at these totals of expenditure, it must be remembered that they are actually diminished by the contributions from Municipal Funds which stood as follows:—

1867-68.		1868-69.
Rupees.		Rupees.
55,020	.....	60,430
(£5,502.)	.....	(£6,043.)

Conduct.

33. The conduct of the Police generally is well reported on. The number of constables fined has decreased considerably, together with the amount of fines levied. Ninety-two men were punished judicially, most of these cases being offences against discipline under Section 29 of Act V of 1861.

Dismissals and Resignations, &c.

34. Dismissals and resignations have not been so frequent as in the previous year, though the figures placed in the margin admit of the Inspector General's remark that "even the reduced figures of 1868 will, if carried on through future years, change the whole force once in little more than five years." And he adds: "Of 2,116 constables, only 377 are of more than five years' service. No sooner does a man gain sufficient experience to render him an efficient Policeman than he leaves the service." The cause of this is said to lie in the fact that a constable's pay is less, after deductions made for uniform and Superannuation Fund, than the lowest rate at which unskilled labour is paid in Berar. Numerically, also, the Force has been rather short-handed, and hence the complaint that it has been overworked.

	1867	1868
1. Dismissed for mis-conduct	199	161
2. Discharged as unfit for service	27	49
3. Resigned	343	276
Total.....	569	486

Arrests and Convictions.

35. These considerations, which may more fitly be discussed in a separate Report, should be taken into account in examining the following comparative table, though they will not excuse the falling off therein exhibited:—

Crimes.	Percentage of offences brought to trial to those admitted to have occurred.		Percentage of persons convicted to those arrested.	
	1867	1868	1867	1868
Cognizable ...	71·18	63	70·97	65· 5
Non-cognizable ...	99· 9	97· 6	52· 8	51· 8
Total ...	80·05	70· 5	64· 2	61· 6

Improved Registration of Crime.

36. And it should be mentioned that instructions issued during 1868 have tended to increase the number of crimes recorded. "Station-house officers were, in some Districts, in the habit of refusing charges at their own discretion: when this was done, the crime did not appear in the register." This practice was manifestly open to great abuse, and it became necessary to put a stop to it. "The station-house

officer is now bound to receive and record every cognizable charge made, and a crime can only be struck off the register by order of the Deputy Commissioner on the application of the District Superintendent: the new practice tends perhaps to keep crimes on the register which have not really occurred, for it is often difficult to prove that a charge is a false one, but this is far preferable to the old system under which a dishonest station-house officer was able to evade recording a crime."

Want of Detective ability.

37. It is generally stated by the District Officers, and corroborated by the returns, that the Police are very much wanting in detective ability. More than half the dacoities admitted to have occurred during the year have remained undetected, and though instances of this crime are by no means numerous, it will be necessary to strike boldly at any symptoms which may indicate a recurrence of the dacoitee plague which raged in the Province a few years ago. The Brinjarras, who are said to number 51,000, and are reported on all sides to be a criminal class—responsible for most of the dacoities, and much of the heinous crime—need careful watching. It is satisfactory to note that Rahtores have given no trouble lately.

Brinjarras.

Police Schools.

38. Police schools are now fairly established at the head-quarters of each District, and the men attending them have made considerable progress in their duties. The instruction given is of a practical nature, calculated to make the men acquainted with those parts of the law and procedure which affect them as Policemen. At the rural stations, daily instruction is given to the men off-duty, and on occasions of the station being inspected, the European Officers hold examination.

Railway Police.

39. A new arrangement of Railway Police, which has worked well, and to the satisfaction of the Railway authorities, is thus described in the Inspector General's Report:—

"The Police employed in that part of the G. I. P. Railway "which runs through Berar came under the control of this De- "partment in September 1868."

"Under the new arrangements, the Company pays for that por- "tion which is rendered necessary by the presence of the "many Europeans employed on the Railway, *i. e.*, for a European "Inspector and two European Chief Constables, and the Company "also allows each District Superintendent, through whose Dis- "trict the line passes, Rupees 50 per mensem for supervising the

" Railway Police. The Government bears the cost of the Head " Constables and Constables."

" The Railway Police in each District is under the control of " the District Superintendent of that District, and an Inspector " is in subordinate charge of the whole of the Railway Police in " Berar."

" This arrangement is, I think, preferable to that by which the " Railway Police is a separate body under its own Officers, be- " cause the Railway and District Police being part of the same " Force, a more thorough inter-communication exists than when " they are separate from each other, while unity of action as re- " gards duties on the line of rail is ensured by the maintenance " of an European Inspector solely for the supervision of the Rail- " way Police."

Supervision.

40. The Force has been well supervised by Major Millett and by Captain Lane, who officiated as Inspector General for nine months of the year; and the Superintendents, though in one or two instances possessed of little experience, are nevertheless all well reported of.

SECTION V.—JAILS.

Progress of Jail Buildings.

41. Neither of the two Central Jails at Akolah and Oomrawuttee can as yet be reported quite finished. At Akolah the gate-way and central tower remain to be constructed. At Oomrawuttee such progress was made with the Jail buildings as to enable the Deputy Commissioner to abandon the old ones; work has been somewhat retarded owing to the necessity for considerable revision and alterations of plan and estimate to meet the suggestions of the Inspector General of Jails; but there has also been less excusable delay. The Yeotmahl Lock-up is in fair order; the new Lock-up sanctioned will be commenced shortly. The same may be said of the Lock-up sanctioned for Ellichpore, where the Jail accommodation as previously reported is specially defective. At Booldanah and Bassim Jail buildings will have to be provided as soon as funds permit. Meanwhile the prisoners under trial must be kept in the station-houses.

Watch and Ward.

42. The proposals sanctioned with regard to the provision of suitable Jail Establishments have been carried out, and the system of appointing prisoners, selected for good conduct, to assist in the watch and ward

has been instituted in the Akolah and Oomrawuttee Jails. It has not been judged expedient to extend this system to the Lock-ups, where only prisoners sentenced to short terms of imprisonment are confined.

Number of Persons imprisoned.

43. The number of persons imprisoned during the year was 1,990, nine-tenths of which number represent *first* convictions.

Daily average in Confinement, and Cost.

44. The daily average number under confinement increased from 879 in 1867, to 966 in 1868; while the average cost per head in these two years has decreased from Rupees 81-11-9 (£8 3*s.*) to Rupees 71-1-10 (£7 2*s.*). The actual cost to the State, after deducting the estimated value of prison-labour, was Rupees 44-3-8 (£4 8*s.*) per prisoner: in the preceding year it was entered at Rupees 37-11-10 (£3 15*s.*), but as was then pointed out by the Government, the value of prison-labour had been erroneously calculated.

Total Expenditure.

45. The total expenditure as detailed in the published Report of the Inspector General of Jails amounted to Rupees 69,208-9-3 (£6,921), against Rupees 72,993-8-1 (£7,299) in 1867.

Dietary and Clothing.

46. The dietary of the prisoners was reported as good and sufficient. The average cost per head for diet and clothing is thus shown for the two years:—

	1867.			1868.		
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Diet	45	3	11	30	15	9
Clothing... ...	5	14	10	3	13	2

Though the cost of diet is still in excess of what it is in some Provinces, it is rather less than in others, and considering the dearness of provisions in Berar, may hardly be capable of further reduction.

Prisoners who can read.

47. Of 979 prisoners in confinement at the close of the year, only 75 males and one female could read—an indication to be observed in connection with the fact that about four-fifths of our Jail population are returned from the class of agriculturists and labourers. In the Central Jails something has been attempted by the usual means to teach prisoners to read and write, but the results attained have not been recorded, owing probably to their extreme poverty.

Juvenile Offenders.

48. In the case of Juvenile prisoners, of which there were only eight, located at Akolah and Oomrawuttee, instruction is regularly attended to.

Industrial Education.

49. Industrial education has progressed considerably. It is stated that remarkably good articles are made up in both the Akolah and Oomrawuttee Jails. The manufacturing results are thus exhibited:—

Years.	Daily average employed	Net profits.	Average earnings per prisoner.
		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1867 ...	102·81	2,811 5 6	27 5 5
1868 ...	186·30	9,029 13 1	48 7 6

Labour and Employment.

50. To the subjoined figures and remarks, extracted from the Inspector General's Report, I need only add that strict attention has been called to the Resolution (of January last,) in which the Government of India commented on the fact that "when a prisoner is sentenced judicially to hard labour, it is nothing short of an illegality to employ him on any work that does not answer to this description." Strict adherence to the prescribed orders on the labour and employment of prisoners may not always be possible, as it is some times difficult to provide hard labour within jail walls for a large number of convicts, unless we revert to what has been denounced as aimless labour, and as what are called menial duties, (many of which are classed as 'medium' or 'light' labour,) must necessarily be performed at times in district jails by prisoners sentenced to less than 12 months' imprisonment. But care has been enjoined to the necessity of duly enforcing a proper system of task-work, and to seeing that prisoners sentenced to hard labour are not allowed to undertake labour of any other description, merely because of any skill they may possess at handicrafts which bring in money, and so reduce the cost to the State of its prison-population.

"The prisoners were employed as shown in the following table:—

	1867.		1868.
Sick, infirm, &c.	15·38	.....	42·91
Without labour, (Civil debtors) } Unemployed .... }	65·92	.....	83·96 / 119·85
On menial duties	161·07	.....	164·98
On new Jail buildings	166·57	.....	330·93
On labour outside Jail	366·98	.....	59·44
On manufactures	102·81	.....	186·30
Total daily average strength.....	878·73	.....	987·47

"Those employed on menial duties, compared with the previous year, increased by 3 only, though the daily average number of prisoners increased by 100. This shows that fewer men did more work. The great object in Jail management is to keep the prisoners employed on this description of labour as low as possible, so that their time may be fully occupied, and more prisoners made available for other works."

"The daily average number of prisoners employed on new Jail buildings increased from 166 in 1867, to 330 in the year under report, which shows that more attention has been paid to the orders of Government on this matter."

Sanitation.

51. A table is added showing the sick rate and death rate in each Jail. The results shown though not so favourable as those of the preceding year, which were unusually good, do not appear to call for any particular remark. The comparatively high sick rate at Ellichpore has not been attributed to any causes within administrative control, though the Inspector General notes that the Jail throughout the year was over-crowded, and should be abandoned as soon as practicable. Some months ago it was thought right to order that no prisoners sentenced to more than one month's imprisonment should be confined in this Jail.

DISTRICTS.	Per Cent.			
	Sick rate.		Death rate.	
	1868.	1867.	1868.	1867.
Akolah	3·74	1 32	3·77	1·72
Oomrawuttee	3·34	3 42	4·81	3·02
Ellichpore	8·06	*	1·85	*
Booldanah	3·47	·002	..	..
Woon (Yeotmahl)	2·13	4· 24	..	..
Mean average.....	4·14	2· 25	3·48	2·37

Statistical Details.

52. From the statistical details contained in the last published Annual Report, the following are selected for insertion:—

	1868.	
	Males.	Females.
Prisoners judicially released by acquittal, expiry of sentence, or payment of fine (during 1868)	1,633	198
Transferred to Lunatic Asylum	5	1
Escaped	2	2
Died	37	1
Executed	7	...
Transported	15	...
Released on account of { Good conduct	2	...
Released on account of { Sickness	1	...

*No returns were received from Ellichpore last year: the Lock-up there had been then only recently established.

CHAPTER II.

REVENUE.

SECTION I.—LAND TAX.

Revenue realized.

53. The Land Revenue realized amounts to Rupees 44,75.569-11-3 (£447,557,) leaving a sum of Rupees 20,303-11-3 (£2,030) uncollected when the year closed. Out of this, Rupees 1,000 (£100) in East Berar are likely to be irrecoverable.

At the outset, then, we find an increase of revenue realized over the preceding year to the extent of Rupees 1,06,846-11-3 (£10,684,) and are again met by the statement that distraint has not been resorted to in a single instance.

Revenue Demand.

54. On the rise in the Revenue demand, as shown in the following table:—

Districts.		1867-68.			1868-69.			Increase.		
		Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
West Berar	Akolah	...	...	...	15,45,099	1	7	.....	...	...
	Booldanah				7,69,357	13	0	.....	...	...
	Bassim				3,02,419	14	5	.....	...	...
East Berar	Oomrawuttee ...				6,42,470	10	8	.....	...	...
	Ellichpore				9,29,024	15	10	.....	...	...
	Woon				3,07,500	15	0	.....	...	...
Total.....		*44,43,798 (£444,379	13	0	44,95,873 (£449,587)	6	6	52,074 (£5,207)	9	6

I quote from the Report of the Commissioner, West Berar:—"It "must always be borne in mind that the demand for Land Reve- "nue from districts under the Ryotwarree system is not fixed, "though the assessment may have been settled. The assess- "ment is not on whole villages, but on fields, and the cultivating "leases are for thirty years on the part of Government, but from "year to year on the cultivators' part. Thus the demand is made "up every year on the actual rent roll of each village, and fluc- "tuates with the yearly spread or diminution of cultivation. "The assessed Land tax of this Division, after all the cultivable "land shall have been taken up, will be very far beyond the de- "mand now shown. During this year, the new assessment, has "operated both to raise and diminish the demand. It has raised "it by raising rates per acre, and by bringing concealed cultiva-

* The demand for each District is not entered, the District areas, except as regards Oomrawuttee and Ellichpore, having all been changed during the year.—See Introductory Remarks, page 2.

" tion under Revenue demand. It has, I think, helped to dimi-
" nish it, because the enhancement of rate, and the costs of Sur-
" vey, add fresh motives to those which at the beginning of last
" season induced the cultivators to throw up many leases." But on the whole our Land Revenue rises.

Cultivated Area.

55. The provincial area under cultivation has been extended, on the whole, by 95,636 acres, thus:—

	1867-68.		1868-69.
Acres ...	4,851,551	.....	4,947,187.

The proportion of cultivated to waste is shown as 100 to 119 acres, or 45·57 per cent.* on the total area, and exhibits a Revenue demand averaging 14½ Annas (1*s.* 9*d.*) per acre.

Leases abandoned, &c.

56. There have been many instances of ryots throwing up their cultivating leases; the consequent decrease of cultivation, more than balanced by fresh land taken up, is traced to last year's fall of price in the cotton markets, and to the measurements of the Survey, putting a stop to contraband farming. "The progress of the Survey," writes the Commissioner of East Berar, "brings to light all surreptitious cultivation, and as a man must pay for every acre he cultivates, the consequence is that in the Talooks which have been surveyed, the people have retained just so much land as will re-pay their labour and expenditure, and have relinquished that which was beyond their means to cultivate properly."

And the Commissioner of West Berar, speaking to the same effect, further remarks "that though the cultivated area does, in the long run, continue to spread, yet its margin may be expected to advance and recede according to the seasons of the markets, because the land is not fully occupied, and the cultivators have no capital. The margin advanced with the cotton speculations, and receded when they collapsed; this year there was the coincidence of a short supply and an active demand, which combined to run up prices, hence we may expect next year a notable expansion of cultivation. But next year we may have a stagnant demand, in an over-stocked market, drooping prices will fall still lower, and the margin of cultivation will again contract. And since our Revenue demand is only on the fields occupied, it will follow these variations, but though we thus lose revenue, we may still continue to show clean balance sheets."

* The proportion of cultivated to total acreage in each district is thus shown:—Akolah, 79 per cent.; Booldanah, 58 per cent.; Ellichpore, 47 per cent.; Bassim, 45 per cent.; Oomrawuttee, 42 per cent.; and Woon, 19 per cent.

Improved condition of Cultivators.

57. From the report just quoted, I extract also the following testimony to the improving condition of the cultivators, who constitute nearly two-thirds of the whole population :—

"Many holdings still change occupants yearly, being thrown "up or sold for debt, but these are often absorbed under differ- "ent forms of tenure by the substantial farmers—a class which "is rapidly growing. And it is admitted on all sides that the mort- "gaging of standing crops is falling fast into disuse, while most "of the smaller cultivators can now reserve from each harvest "enough to keep them in food and seed until the next season ; "so that we have here two plain symptoms of diminishing po- "verty."

Rain-fall and Harvests.

58. The rain-fall was scanty, and ceased much too early. It was also singularly capricious, varying widely over areas scarcely four, three, or two miles distant from each other, and again when showers would have been beneficial, coming down with such violence as to damage rather than revive. But in spite of many forebodings, the crops did not suffer to the extent anticipated, indeed in some places where the irregularity of the season was not so marked as in others, the out-turn was not unusually deficient. Especially was this the case with the cotton crop, which except on the high lands, where it lacked moisture, is pronounced to have been decidedly good and of excellent quality.

1866-67.		1867-68.		1868-69.	
Inches.	Cents.	Inches.	Cents.	Inches.	Cents.
17 ...	29	37 ...	97	18 ...	58

Average yearly fall from 34 to 37 inches.

Scarcity in Woon.

59. At one time, the reports from the Woon District indicated a scarcity approaching to famine, to meet which, on the urgent representations of the district Officers, certain relief measures, already reported, were set on foot. But this scarcity, it will be remembered, was felt in May, and was owing to the failure of the *previous* year's crops, particularly of Jowarree, the staple of the district. The district in question is wild and sparsely populated, remote from centres of trade and comparatively roadless, with a people little able to resist panic. Distress was probably, and not unnaturally, exaggerated—it ceased to appear soon after the commencement of measures undertaken in relief. A supply of 545 khundees (or 93,786 quarters) of grain was poured in from the Oomrawuttee District, and employment was found for the indigent by opening out petty works of improvement on the spot. The grain transported, at a cost of Rupees 18,970 (£1,897,) was sold for Rupees 10,918 (£1,092,) the loss of Rupees 8,052 (£805 4s.) thence accruing being defrayed, with the consent of the Imperial Government, from the

general revenues of the province. The poor affected by this temporary tightening of the grain stocks were not eligible for Tuccavee advances, as there was no hope of re-payment, so none were granted.

Prices of Produce.

60. The prices at which produce sold approximate to those of the years 1865 and 1866, when the cotton mania reduced the cultivation of food grains, and the people had money to throw away:—

Years.	Cotton.	Wheat.	Jowaree.	Grain.
		lbs. per Rupee.		
From 1850 to 1861...	11½	62	111	82
1865...	3½	22	30	24
1866...	3½	18	30	18
1867...	4	20	44	22
1868...	5½	32	58	32
1869...	4½	29	38½	26

Distribution of Crops.

61. The distribution of crops as calculated for the whole Province is thus shown:—

Cotton occupied ... ... 24¾ per cent.*
Jowaree and other cereals, dry crops, and oil seeds... 74 „
Garden cultivation... ... 1¼ „ of the cultivated area. Here we have a strong indication of the well-to-do condition of the peasant landholders of the Province, as it is commonly reported that the proceeds of the cotton cultivation are alone sufficient to enable the ryots to pay the Revenue demand.

Village Expenses.

62. The net rental previously shown does not include the village expenses, which have risen from Rupees 6,48,304 (£64,830,) to Rupees 7,49,855-11-8 (£74,985,) or 16·68 per cent. They were briefly described in the last Report, and it was then pointed out that they must be added to the account with the Educational, Road, and Jaglia (or Village Police) Cesses before the real incidence of the land tax on the cultivator is fairly stated. With this addition of 25 per cent. to the Survey Assessment, we find the Land rent averaged Rupees 1-2-2 (2*s.* 3¼*d.*) per acre during 1868, against Rupees 1-2-0 (2*s.* 3*d.*) in 1867.

Per Centage of each Cess on the Land Revenue.		
Educational.	Road.	Jaglia.
1 per cent.	1 per cent.	6·25 per cent., or 1 anna in the Rupee.

* It is found, as might be supposed, that the area under cotton cultivation did not advance in the same proportion as that occupied by cereals, &c. Cotton claims rather less than ⅛th of the increased acreage of cultivation reported in para. 54.

have them so settled, the 'Panchayet,' or members of the Committee appointed by them, were either unable or unwilling to come to a decision.

The settlement of boundary disputes on His Highness the Nizam's Frontier has made good progress. Mr. Hobson, the Officer engaged in this duty, acknowledges the useful and cordial co-operation of the officer deputed by His Highness' Government to assist him, and reports a length of 165 miles of boundary settled during the year 1868-69,—of which 101 miles were undisputed.

Causes of increased Expenditure, &c.

67. The total cost of the Survey was Rupees 1,82,193 (£18,219,) against Rupees 1,62,190 (£16,219) in 1867, but a large decrease [Rupees 24,272] (£2,427) in the cost of boundary marks raised the actual increase of the expenditure to be accounted for to Rupees 44,275 (£4,427,) of which about 42 per cent. appear under the head of necessary contingent charges, and the remainder is due to the addition of one highly paid Assistant, an augmentation of the Superintendent's salary, and the raising of additional establishment.

Hindrances encountered.

68. The work performed is, I think, creditable to the Department, which had to contend with some rather exceptional difficulties, among which Major Elphinstone specifies the necessity experienced of employing a large number of new hands to replace the vacancies formed by the creation of two new measuring establishments ("In order to ensure accuracy in the work," he says, "we do not exact from "young measurers the same amount of work as we do from "older hands.")

General Progress of Survey.

69. The following Statement exhibits the progress made in the several Districts up to the close of the Survey year:—

Division.	Districts.	Name of Talook.	Measurement.	Classification.	Settlement.
WEST BERAR.	AKOLAH.	Ballapore ...	Completed ...	Completed ...	Completed.
		Julgaon ...	do. ...	do. ...	do.
		Akolah ...	do. ...	do. ...	do.
		Akote ...	do. ...	do. ...	do.
	BOOLDANAH.	Mulkapore ...	Completed ...	Completed ...	Completed.
		Chicklee ...	do. ...	do. ...	do.
		Mehkur ...	do. ...	In progress ..	Not commenced.
	BASSIM	Bassim ...	In progress ...	Not commenced.	Not commenced.
		Pusud ...	Not commenced.	do. ...	do.

Division.	Districts.	Name of Talook.	Measurement.	Classification.	Settlement.
EAST BERAR.	OOMRAWUTTEE.	Moortizapore ...	Completed ...	In progress ...	Not commenced.
		Oomrawuttee .	In progress ...	Not commenced.	do.
		Tallegaon ...	Not commenced.	do. ...	do.
	ELLICHPORE.	Darriapore ...	In progress ...	In progress ...	In progress.
		Ellichpore ...	do. ...	Not commenced.	Not commenced.
		Morsee ...	Not commenced.	do. ...	do.
	YEOTMAL	Woon ...	Not commenced.	Not commenced.	Not commenced.
		Yeotmal ...	do. ...	do. ...	do.
		Darwa ...	do. ...	do. ...	do.

Total area measured, &c., and cost.

70. And the results given as to the area measured and classified since the institution of the Survey and Settlement Department eight years ago are thus summed up:—

No. of acres measured.		No. Classified.		Total cost of Survey.
				Rupees.
4,440,090	...	3,857,238	...	8,42,417
				(£84,242)

If the establishments be maintained at the strength sanctioned by Government last year, it is estimated that the whole of the Province, with the exception of the forest tracts of Mailghat, will be brought under Survey and Settlement by 1874.

Inam Inquiry.

63. The progress of the Inam Inquiry, which was brought to a close in East Berar, and will shortly be completed in West Berar, may be briefly noticed.

The work performed during 1868-69 is thus represented :—

West Berar.	Number.	Acres.	Value of Claim. Rs.	A.	P.
Land Claims	632	15,089	9,299	12	11
Integral Villages	12	13,321	18,734	5	9
Money Claims	12	.....	4,477	15	2
Total...	656	28,410	32,512 (£3,251)	1	10

Final orders have yet to be passed on certain claims in East Berar, as thus shown :—

	Number.	Acres.	Value of Claim. Rupees.
Land Claims	128	2,749	2,599
Integral Villages... ...	13	10,859	6,037
Money Claims	3	.....	100
Total...	144	13,608	8,736 (£873)

SURVEY AND SETTLEMENT.

Strength of Establishment.

64. The survey assessment has advanced satisfactorily. There were 6 measuring and 2 classing establishments, against 4 measuring and 2 classing establishments in the previous year. The last report submitted (for the year ending 31st October 1868) shows the following results :—

General Results.

	1866-67.	1867-68.	Increase.
Total acres measured ...	661,545	739,949	78,404
Do. do. classed ...	573,476	675,949	102,473

And the subjoined figures show the progress made in the Settlement work:—

Villages settled	...	...	408
Total area settled	...	Acres	604,444
Cultivated area settled	...	,,	473,342
Waste area settled	...	,,	62,688
Assessment of cultivated area settled		...Rs.	703,285
Do. of waste area settled		... ,,	30,836
Realizable Revenue on area settled		... ,,	7,34,121 [£73,412]
According to the revised assessment, the Revenue on the cultivated area as shown above amounts to		...Rs.	7,03,285
According to the last year of the old system it was	...	...Rs.	5,90,845
Showing an increase of	...	... ,,	1,12,440 [£11,244]

Cost of Measurement, &c.

65. The cost of measurement averaged 2 Annas and 10½ Pies per acre, and of classification 1 Anna and ¼ Pie per acre, rates very similar to those of the preceding year. 6,410 acres, or 8 per cent. on the work performed by the establishment were personally tested by the European Officers, and it is stated that almost the whole of the fields examined, or about 96 per cent. of the men's work, were found to be within 2 per cent. error; only one field showed an error as high as 6 per cent.

Testing Operations.

Boundary Disputes.

66. Boundary disputes between villages were very numerous; altogether 100 such disputes were finally disposed of, covering an area of 9,278 acres. Of this number, 24 decisions were appealed against, but except in two instances, in which the original decisions were modified, the Superintendent saw no reason to upset the awards made by the Officers, by whom the disputes were investigated. All the lands under dispute were personally visited by the European Officers, and in each case the investigation and the award had to be made by them; as the villagers almost invariably refused to submit their disputes to arbitration, and where they agreed to

Liquors manufactured in Europe.

77. It was noted last year that the consumption of liquors manufactured in Europe was increasing; the sale of licenses to sell such liquor fetched Rupees 8,488 (£849).

Opium.

78. The contracts for the sale of opium this year yielded Rupees 79,563-8-0 (£7,956,) against Rupees 82,494 (£8,249) in 1867-68, showing a decrease of Rupees 2,930-8-0 (£293). The whole question of the cultivation and export of opium is engaging my attention, as the Government of India are already aware. There are reasons to believe that a very large proportion of Malwa grown opium finds its way into the Province untaxed both for purposes of local consumption and export trade, and until some adequate restrictions can be placed upon an illicit trade being conducted through the Assigned Districts, and the neighbouring territories of His Highness the Nizam, it is not likely that the indigenous cultivation of the drug in Berar will be rapidly developed.

The sum of Rupees 1,194-11-6 (£119 9*s.*) under the head of Abkarry remained to be collected in East Berar. In West Berar, there were no outstanding balances.

Stamps.

79. The following Statement gives the income from Stamps compared with the previous year's figures, and shows an increase of Rupees 1,10,440-13-3 [£11,044,] which, due almost entirely to the enhanced receipts from the sale of Judicial Stamps, is sufficiently accounted for by the impulse given to the commercial vitality of the Province, and the increased litigation consequent thereon, as reported in the Section on Civil Justice:—

	1867-68.			1868-69.			Increase.		
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
West Berar ...	1,83,591	0	0	2,46,476	8	3	62,885	8	3
East Berar ...	1,64,397	6	6	2,09,788	9	6	45,391	3	0
Total ..	3,47,988 (£34,799)	6	6	4,56,265 (£45,626)	1	9	1,08,276 (£10,828)	11	3

SECTION III.—TOTAL REVENUES.

Provincial Revenues.

80. The total Provincial Revenues of the Hyderabad Assigned Districts, for the year

1868-69, as compared with those for 1867-68, are shown below:—

	1867-68.	1868-69.
	Rupees.	Rupees.
Land Revenue	43,54,339	44,95,882
Customs, Salt, and Miscellaneous duties.	1,61,697	3,11,798
Abkarree	8,71,765	8,64,886
Stamps	3,47,988	4,56,265
Forests	53,904	84,634
Miscellaneous, including lease of Loonar Lake	33,777	16,996
Total...	58,23,470 (£582,347)	62,30,460 (£623,046)
Total Increase...		4,06,990 (£40,699)

The increase of Rupees 4,06,990 (£40,699,) or 6·99 per cent. over the Revenues of the past year is satisfactory. It must be borne in mind that the above Statement exhibits only revenue pertaining to the year under report, which has actually been realized. This distinction is important, as the Chapter on Finance will treat of receipts and disbursements as they are brought on the books of the Deputy Accountant General, without reference to the periods to which they properly appertain.

Receipts from Local Funds.

81. The Local Funds not included in the Provincial Revenues above shown aggregated Rupees 14,98,100-12-0 [£149,810,] against Rupees 13,57,119-12-8 [£135,712] in 1867-68. A Statement of the receipts which make up this total is subjoined:—

	1868-69.			Total.		
	Rupees.	A.	P.	Rupees.	A.	P.
Town Fund ...	4,37,082	13	5			
Road Fund ...	68,915	7	4			
Pound Fund ...	44,476	10	4			
Dispensary Fund ...	8,747	1	3			
Bazaar Fee Fund ...	41,548	5	4			
Staging Bungalow Fund ...	998	4	10			
Railway Cotton Fee Fund ...	1,870	6	2			
Cotton Improvement Fund ...	106	8	6			
Ferry Fund ...	1,610	4	0			
Brinjarah Cess Fund ...	10,612	0	0			
		—	—	6,15,967	13	2
Educational Cess Fund ...	68,327	3	2			
Chowkydaree Cess Fund ...	63,950	0	0			
Village Expenses	7,49,855	11	8			
		—	—	8,82,132	14	10
Grand Total ...				14,98,100 (£149,810)	12	0

SECTION II.—OTHER TAXES,—SALT,—EXCISE, &c.

Customs.

71. Under the head of Customs the sum of Rupees 3,11,798-5-3 (£31,180) is exhibited as realized during the year under report. This item is almost entirely made up of the realizations of the Berar Customs line under the supervision of the Commissioner of the Imperial Inland Customs Department, from whom the following figures have been obtained:—

	Quantity.		Duty realized including Miscellaneous Receipts.	
	Mds.	Tons.	Rupees.	£.
Salt taxed during 1868-69.....	200,193	= 7,414 $\frac{5}{9}$	... 3,02,800	... 30,280

A further sum of Rupees 8,997-13-1 [£899 15*s.*] is returned as realized by District Officers through the agency of the supplementary internal cordons alluded to in last year's Report. Thus the duty derived from salt, which is the only taxed staple, aggregated Rupees 3,11,798-5-3 (£31,180,) against Rupees 1,61,697 (£16,170) in the preceding year. But it will be remembered that the Customs Department was not at work in Berar till the middle of 1867-68: hence only six months' operations of that year are available for comparison.

Customs Line, Establishment, &c.

72. The position of the Customs Line remains unchanged. The total cost of the Establishment amounted to Rupees 1,28,297 (£12,830.) Advantage has not yet been taken of the sanction accorded by the Government of India in May 1868, to raise the expenditure to Rupees 12,044-8-0 (£1,204) per mensem; because the abolition of the loop-line in the neighbouring Wurdah District of the Central Provinces being expected, it was thought advisable to wait and secure the services of Officers, who, by the withdrawal of this line, will be available for employment in Berar.

The Commissioner of Customs, however, does not propose to allow any delay that can reasonably be avoided in bringing the Establishment up to its full authorized strength, as regards officials of the higher grades; the shortening of the spaces which each of the Berar Customs Line Officers has to supervise being, in his opinion, a matter of essential importance. As regards the subordinate force reductions are admitted to be feasible, and will meet with early consideration.

Particulars regarding Salt trade.

73. The salt trade of the province is confined exclusively to the Kokan or Bombay

Coast produce, and from the statistics given it appears that 207,595* maunds (7,689 tons) of salt entered Berar at Mulcapoor on the G. I. P. Railway, and were distributed from the various Railway stations up to Chandoor. 54 maunds (2 tons) entered from Chandah, (Central Provinces,) and 1,015 maunds (37½ tons) from Jaulnah (Nizam's Territory) *viâ* Sindkheir.

Budneira in Berar continued to be the principal centre of distribution.

Evasion of Customs duty.

74. Fradulent attempts to evade duty were few: it is believed that there is no organized smuggling on the frontier as in Hindustan proper. The Customs Officers are said to exercise their powers of search and seizure with judgment and lenity. Detections and punishments are reported as follows: In 27 cases, nearly 27 maunds of salt were confiscated; and in 98 cases, about 238 maunds paid double duty, aggregating Rupees 714-10-2 (£71 9*s.*). 40 persons were tried and punished by the Magistrates.

Loonar Lake.

75. As mention was made last year of the Loonar Lake (Booldanah District) in connection with an item of revenue exhibited under the head of Salt, it may be noted that the contract for working the carbonate of soda in this Lake brought the sum of Rupees 9,000 (£900). It has again been leased for three years for Rupees 20,000 (£2,000). The preceding triennial lease brought in Rupees 11,600 (£1,160). The yield is so precarious that little would be offered for the chance of one year's profit.

Abkarry.--Excise on Liquor.

76. The sale of the monopolies in vend of country spirits yielded this year Rupees 7,86,517-1-10 (£78,652,) against Rupees 7,88,970-7-2 (£78,897) in 1867-68. An increase of Rupees 17,747-4-6 (£1,775) over the past year has resulted in East Berar, while in West Berar a fall is shown of Rupees 20,200-9-10 (£2,020,) owing to the limitation of the number of licensed liquor shops previously to the sale of the contracts. Thus a net decrease of Rupees 2,453-5-4 (£245 6*s.*) is apparent; and the inference to be derived therefrom is that District Officers in East Berar did not deem it necessary to avail themselves of the discretionary power with which they had been vested to limit the number of licenses put up to auction. The Commissioner is of opinion that the increased consumption in his Division has not been owing to any excessive drinking such as demands restrictive measures on the part of Government, but rather to the growth of a general prosperity which, bringing the means, begets also the desire for a new indulgence in the style of living.

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* This figure shows the actual import without regard to credit to the Central Provinces

Grand Total of Receipts.

82. Thus the actual realized income for 1868-69 under all heads of receipt reached Rupees 77,28,560 (£772,856), showing an increase of Rupees 5,47,971 (£54,797) over the income of 1867-68.

CHAPTER III.

EDUCATION.

The tale of progress is thus continued:—

Increase of Schools, &c.

83. There has been an increase during the year—

Of the schools, from 224 to 335, or nearly 50 per cent.

Of the pupils, from 9,327 to 12,207, or nearly 31 per cent.

And of the students of the several languages taught—

From 1,540 to 1,670, or 8 per cent. in English.
„ 7,846 to 10,472, or 33 per cent. in Marathi.
„ 760 to 895, or 18 per cent. in Sanscrit (Elementary.)
„ 1,449 to 1,754, or 21 per cent. in Hindustani.

Strength has been brought to bear upon lower class education, by opening 103 additional village schools, 79 of which came into existence only last March. And something has been done—cautiously and, it is believed, with tact and success—to provide Girls' schools, which have risen from 15 to 23. No new schools of any other kind have been opened by the Educational Department. The Middle Class schools, at the most important towns and villages, are the same in number as last year (44): and so are the High schools, at Akolah and Oomrawuttee.

Attendance in Schools.

84. The attendance at the different descriptions of schools was as follows:—

	Number of Schools.	Average number of pupils on Rolls monthly.	Average daily attendance.	Average daily attendance for each School.
High schools ...	2	188	146	73
Middle Class schools ...	44	3,495	2,763	63
Lower Class do. ...	266	7,920	6,450	24
Female do. ...	23	585	426	19
Total...	335	12,188	9,785	...

Decrease in Middle Class Schools only.

85. The Middle Class schools alone show decrease—of about seven boys per school on an average. This is attributed to sickness in July and August—two very unhealthy months. Some of these schools, though ranked in the Middle Class—not in all cases because of their present, but rather with a view to their *probable*, development—are little superior, as regards the instruction actually conveyed, to the most flourishing of the Lower Class schools. They have to teach First Rudiments, if the pupils who enter them are wholly untaught, as is often the case. There is always this marked difference between the poorest school of the higher grade and the best of the lower, that English instruction is provided in the former.

Progress in Schools.

86. The High schools have progressed fairly, and have been efficiently superintended by Messrs. Scorgie and Aitkin, the head masters. The Akolah institution passed two of its pupils at the Matriculation examination of the Bombay University last November, and the reports on the other schools, Middle and Lower Class, are on the whole encouraging. Every school, with the exception of some of those opened in the last month of the year under report, was inspected once during the year: and if an average be struck on the whole number of inspection visits—a result of two visits to each school appears.

School Inspection.

Indigenous Schools.

87. On the subject of Indigenous schools, it is to be noted that we have now more information as to the number of boys said to attend these transitory, migratory, institutions—if 'institution' be not too high a word for an ever varying cluster of boys coming and going and picking up crumbs of instruction in a most desultory fashion. The last return shows nearly 2,000 pupils to 90 schools. There has been much correspondence, and many local opinions have been taken

with regard to their improvement, which the Educational Officers still consider almost hopeless, because of the distinctively religious character of the teaching, the ignorance of the teachers, and their disinclination, strengthened by that of the parents of their pupils, to follow advice or accept assistance from the Officers of the Government. Strong as are the expressions used, I am still inclined to question the accuracy of any sweeping opinion which would stamp *all* Indigenous schools as inaccessible to improvement through our advice and assistance. Orders have been issued with the view of attempting, so far as may be practicable, what has been done in other Provinces in support of similar schools. And quite lately it has been thought advisable to open at Akolah

Normal School.

a Normal school, designed for the improvement of the indigenous school-masters, and to qualify in some slight degree the importation of Bombay and Poonah men, which a want of teachers in the Province has hitherto rendered unavoidable.

School Buildings.

88. There is not much to add to what was said in the last Report on the subject of school accommodation. The buildings at Akolah (for the High school) and Khamgaon have been finished: another is in progress at Julgaon; and a few more of a humble character are about to be constructed. Several buildings have been repaired and renewed so as to render them fairly suitable for the purposes required. The provision in many places of better school accommodation than is now available must be admitted to be a matter requiring attention, but in the present stage of our educational operations it will probably be deemed advisable to undertake the cost of construction gradually, and as far as possible from purely local resources, assisted if necessary by grants from the general revenues of the province.

Competitive Examination, Scholarships, &c.

89. The annual examination at which pupils from different schools assemble to compete for the exhibitions tenable in the High schools took place last November at Oomrawuttee, and proved a most interesting ceremony. In 1867 it was held at Akolah, when 30 exhibitions were awarded, 22 different schools competing. At Oomrawuttee the competition was limited to 8 schools, which however furnished 214 competitors, against 186 in the previous year. 35 exhibitions of 5 and 6 Rupees per mensem were allotted. The record of the proceedings on the occasion, which were conducted under the personal superintendence of the Director of Public Instruction, and presided over on the concluding day by the Commissioner of the Division, discloses some

praiseworthy instances of liberality on the part of certain members of the Native community, who kindly assisted in the arrangements made for the accommodation of the pupils competing and of their friends. One native gentleman presented a Sanscrit scholarship of the value of 8 Rupees per mensem for one year.

As the object of these exhibitions is to enable the most talented boys from different parts of Berar to take advantage of the superior training of the High schools, I observe with limited satisfaction that only 11 of the 35 awarded were obtained by boys not educated in the High schools; and it is somewhat disappointing to find that 8 out of the 11 Middle Class school boys who gained scholarships did not avail themselves of them—a circumstance that has lately been attributed to the low value of the exhibitions, which is not sufficient to enable boys to meet the expenses of living at Akolah and Oomrawuttee, and also to the youth of the exhibitioners owing to which parents are reluctant to allow them to leave their homes."

Further consideration will be necessary to ensure a proper distribution of these scholarships.

Fees and Fines.

90. Fees and Fines levied in schools supported by the General Revenues have, in accordance with orders received during the year, been for the first time paid into the Provincial Treasury, instead of being credited to the schools as before. They amounted to Rupees 16,374 (£1,637,) against Rupees 12,318-2-0 (£1,232) in 1867-68. The increase (Rupees 4,055-14-0) (£405) of 33 per cent. has apparently been obtained without difficulty, as the average fee per mensem is reduced by the admission of poor pupils admitted free to 1 anna 9 pies (or about 2½*d.*) per mensem for each boy:—

No. of free pupils.	Average fee per pupil per mensem.		
		As.	Pies.
41	In the High schools ...	5	1
539	„ Middle Class schools ...	2	0
1,014	„ Lower Class do. ...	1	8
.....	„ Girls' do. ...	...	...
1,594	Mean average per pupil ...	1	9

Books, &c., sold.

91. Books, maps, &c., sold amounted to 42,402 in number, and to Rs. 8,771-15-0 (£877) in value.

Desire for instruction in English.

92. In alluding last year to the general desire for instruction in English, I mentioned that on an average every sixth boy in our Berar schools was learning that language, though far the most weight is attached to the Vernacular languages. It has now to be said that every seventh boy is learning English, the Lower Class schools which do not include English in their simple course of study having been considerably increased.

Caste analysis of Pupils under instruction.

93. There are some interesting figures and remarks on the castes of the pupils in our schools, which may here be extracted from the report submitted by Captain Wodehouse, who was officiating for Dr. Sinclair, the Director of Public Instruction, (absent on privilege leave) at the close of the year under review. The ratio of Mahomedans to Hindoos was much the same as in previous years,—being 1 to 5·30 in March 1867; 1 to 4·87 in 1868; and 1 to 5 in March 1869.

"Below is a return showing proportion of male pupils according to castes "attending our schools, to the total male population. The latter has been calcu- "lated at half the total population, which is very nearly correct according to Cen- "sus Returns":—

	Male population.	No. of boys attending schools.	Percentage of boys to population.
Brahmins	23,921	2,886	12·1
Koonbees	340,684	2,639	0·8
Other Hindoos	687,204	4,280	0·6
Mahomedans	77,470	1,766	2·3
Other Castes and Races.	497	25	5

"Excluding Female schools, there are 18 schools to every 1,000 square miles, "and 10·06 pupils to every 1,000 males, or one pupil in every 99 males" * * *

"The percentage of Brahmins in the two upper classes of schools must natu- "rally be very high; we can expect nothing else for some time to come. In the "Lower Class schools the percentage of Koonbees, who form the bulk of the agri- "culturists, is not high enough, but it may be, will rise. All over the world we find "the same difficulty of inducing the agriculturist to send his children to school, "and of persuading him to keep them there after they are ten years' old. But then

" the Berar cultivator is much more in need of education than the tiller of soil in " many other countries. The Koonbee is no mere farm laborer; he owns the land " he tills; he is deeply interested in its improvement; he keeps an account with money " lenders, and with the Revenue Officers; he is always getting into debt and going " to law with his banker or his brethren. In such a profession the want of school- " ing must be continually felt, and the Government as landlord will find direct pro- " fit of various kinds in insisting upon the Koonbee parent's obligation to get his " children taught. It was probably in view of these paramount considerations that " Sir Richard Temple resolved to place the village schools under the immediate " superintendence of the Deputy Commissioners, whose direct authority over the " agricultural community might be justifiably employed in pressing forward a mea- " sure so essential, and yet so difficult."

Educational expenditure.

94. From the subjoined Statement of expenditure the main facts to be observed are:—

That about 15 per cent. of the total cost was borne by Local Funds.

" 18·5 per cent. was devoted to Direction and Inspection, with their subsidiary charges.

" 8·1 per cent. to High Class schools.

" 29·8 do. to Middle "

" 36·4 do. to Lower "

" 3·1 do. to Female "

4·1 do. to Miscellaneous expenditure, such as books, scholarships, &c.

On account of	Expenditure.		
	General Revenues.	Local and Municipal Funds.	Total.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Direction (*a.*)	21,802 11 1	....	21,802 11 1
Inspection (*a.*)	20,327 14 2	....	20,327 14 2
High Class schools.....	18,462 3 2	....	18,462 3 2
Middle do.	67,284 9 7	523 0 0	67,807 9 7
Lower do.	56,770 2 2	26,037 2 8	82,807 4 10
Female Schools	... ...	7,182 3 9	7,182 3 9
Miscellaneous do. (*b.*)	9,403 14 11	....	9,403 14 11
Total.....	(*c*) 1,94,051 7 1 (£19,405)	(*d*) 33,742 6 5 (£3,374)	2,27,793 13 6 (£22,779)

(a.)—Includes travelling, contingent, and printing expenses and office rent.

(b.)—Includes Rupees 5,000 (£500) for school prizes, Rupees 2,035 (£203) for scholarships, and Rupees 2,368 (£237) for book depôt establishment.

(c.)—Rupees 12,000 (£1,200) advanced for purchase of books, and Rupees 10,171 (£1,017) expended by P. W. Department on school-house at Akolah, not included in this total.

(d.)—Rupees 7,696 (£769) spent on school-house at Khamgaon, and chargeable to Local Revenues, not included.

Comparing this expenditure with that of the preceding year,* we find an increase of Rupees 17,012 (£1,701) made up as follows:—

	Rupees.
Increase of expenditure from Local Funds	...19,964
Decrease do. from General Revenues	... 2,952

and explained by the Educational Cess of one per cent. on the Land Revenue having been levied throughout the year, while in 1867-68 it was levied for only one month. To this Cess is the Province mainly indebted for the spread of lower class education already noticed.

Average Cost per Pupil.

95. The average cost per pupil in each description of school is thus shown:—

	1868-69.					
	Total cost per pupil per annum.			Cost to Government.		
	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
High schools	98	3	0	94	7	0
Middle Class schools ...	19	6	0	17	8	0
Lower do. do.	10	7	0	6	11	0
Girls' schools	12	4	0	...	...	...
Average	19	7	0	10	10	0

In cost to Government, income from Fees and Fines is deducted from expenditure.

The reasons which make educational expenditure comparatively high in Berar have been detailed in previous Reports, and need not be repeated here.

Inspecting Staff.

96. The Inspecting Staff is now at its full strength, there being a European Inspector for each of the two Divisions, and six Deputy Inspectors, one for each district; whereas in the preceding year there were only four Deputy Inspectors and one Inspector.

* In para. 101 of the last Administration Report the Educational expenditure for 1867-68, from General Revenues, was set down at Rupees 1,63,222, but this amount did not include certain charges since audited, and which belonging to the expenditure of 1867-68, raise the actual total for that year to Rupees 1,97,003.

CHAPTER IV.

PUBLIC WORKS.

SECTION I.—MILITARY BUILDINGS.

Progress of Military Buildings at Akolah.

97. Fair progress has been made at Akolah in the building of the Rest-houses for troops travelling by rail, though the anticipations of the Superintending Engineer as to the actual completion of the work have not been quite fulfilled. The two large barracks for single men are nearly completed. The barrack for married men with out-offices is finished, and ready for occupation. The Officers' quarters will be ready very shortly.

Petty Works and Repairs to Military Buildings.

98. Some necessary minor and petty works, additions, and repairs to Military buildings at the stations of the Hyderabad Contingent have been executed.

SECTION II.—CIVIL BUILDINGS.

The work to be noticed in this Section is thus briefly sketched:—

Progress of Jail Buildings.

99. The Jail at Akolah has been completed according to the original plan; but alterations have subsequently become necessary, which it is intended to carry out as far as possible by Jail labour. At Oomrawuttee, the progress of the Jail was somewhat retarded owing to the necessity of considerable modifications of the original plan to meet the views of the Inspector General. But nevertheless, during 1868-69, 3 additional wards, a Hospital guard-room, Jailor's quarters, 2 worksheds, and 2 cook-rooms have been completed, as well as a considerable length of enclosure wall.

Completed works.

100. The Court-house and residence for the Assistant Commissioner at Khamgaon; the Tehseeldar's Cutcherry at Akolah; a new Court-house for an Assistant Commissioner at Budneira; and the new Tehsilee at Chandoor, commenced last year, have all been completed.

Works still in progress.

101. The undermentioned works are still in progress:—

1.—Deputy Commissioner's Cutcherry at Bassim. Well advanced.

2.—Tehseeldar's Cutcherry at Julgaon.

3.—A Town Hall, Museum, and Public Library at Akolah, chargeable to Local Funds. Just begun.

4.—A Cutcherry at Oomrawuttee for Commissioner, East Berar. Well advanced.

5.—Deputy Commissioner's Court-house at Yeotmahl. Well advanced.

6.—A Small Cause Court-house at Oomrawuttee. Commenced late in the year.

Police Station-houses.

102. The Police Station-houses at Khamgaon, Sheogaon, and Nandgaon-Cazee have been completed, and materials are being collected for the construction of other Station-houses.

Post Offices.

103. Buildings for Post Offices at Nandoora, Khamgaon, Akolah, and Budneira have been constructed, and one has been commenced at Oomrawuttee. Out-offices for the Post Offices at Ellichpore, Budneira, and Chandoor were finished during the year.

School-houses at Akolah and Khamgaon.

104. The School-houses at Akolah and Khamgaon have been completed.

Dispensary Hospital at Khamgaon.

105. A Dispensary Hospital at Khamgaon has been built.

Other minor Civil Works.

106. Other minor Civil Works have been carried out at a cost of Rupees 3,112 (£311 4*s.*)

Akolah and Mallaigaon road, &c.

107. The five miles of the Akolah and Mallaigaon road, which remained unfinished last year, have been completed, thus opening out for cart traffic a connection between the Railway at Akolah and the old Nagpore dâk line at Mulkapore. A road from Mallaigaon to Bassim has also been commenced; when finished, this road will place the latter station in regular communication with the Railway.

Budneira and Moorsee road.

108. Attempts to push on the Budneira and Moorsee road were hindered by the illness of the Assistant Engineer in charge.

Minor roads and other works.

109. A series of minor roads at the sudder stations of Bassim and Ellichpore were undertaken and finished. Roads connecting the Railway station at Budneira with the Budneira and Oomrawuttee road, the Courthouse and other public buildings, have also been taken in hand. A number of bridges and drains in the station of Akolah, and two small bridges on the Akolah and Akote road commenced last year have been completed.

Travellers' Bungalows and Serais.

110. A commodious Travellers' Bungalow at the important cotton mart of Khamgaon is nearly completed. A large serai also at the same place, taken over from the Local Fund Engineer in 1867-68, has been so far finished as to admit of the back range being occupied. The serai at Budneira has been completed.

Inspection Bungalows.

111. Four Inspection Bungalows for the shelter of Public Works Establishment have been commenced.

Other petty Works.

112. There were other petty works executed at a cost of Rupees 7,104 (£710 8*s.*). Besides the above operations conducted by the Public Works Department, considerable sums were spent by the Civil Officers from Local Funds in improving the village fair weather roads and on other useful objects.

Expenditure on roads from Local Funds.

113. The Road Cess realized an income of Rupees 68,915-7-4 (£6,891,) out of which Rupees 36,975 (£3,697) have been laid out by the Civil authorities; and a further sum of Rupees 29,128 (£2,913) was expended on roads undertaken from Local Funds by the Public Works Department.

Unexpended Budget grant for roads.

114. I cannot conclude this section without expressing my concern and regret that so large a sum as Rupees 1,70,237 (£17,024] out of the Budget grant sanctioned should have remained unexpended at the close of the year. The Superintending Engineer's explanation of this lapse shows that it was caused by too sanguine a view having been taken at the time the Budget was framed of the possibility of submitting and obtaining sanction to estimates for four proposed new lines of road and a large bridge.

SECTION IV.—RAILWAY.

Branch Railway between Khamgaon and Jullum.

115. Surveys and estimate for a road with curves and gradients suitable for a Railway between the important cotton mart of Khamgaon and the new Railway station at Jullum, were prepared and submitted early in the year under report; but a fresh estimate for a common road was called for by the Government, and subsequently, orders were received for the construction of a branch Railway which, begun last June, finds no place in this Report.

Improvement of traffic arrangements.

116. As will be noticed in the Chapter on Cotton, the traffic arrangements of the G. I. P. Railway were greatly improved, so as to put an end to the "blocks," formerly so frequent, and to render unnecessary the continuance at Railway stations of the cotton yards, which, regulated in a manner and with a discipline that entailed much care and trouble, were organized to mitigate the inconveniences, besides risk and damage to the cotton, arising from a vast accumulation of bales awaiting transport to Bombay.

SECTION V.—IRRIGATION.

Action taken in this Department.

117. Last year, it was stated that action had been delayed in the department of Irrigation until the requirements of the Province in regard to roads and sanitation should have been more fully attended to; a begin-

ning however has lately been made by the deputation of an Engineer to examine the country and collect data regarding irrigation projects. His enquiries were unfortunately delayed by sickness, yet a report, submitted after the year had closed, affords hope that some plans for the storage of water may shortly be brought forward.

SECTION VI.—MISCELLANEOUS AND MUNICIPAL.

Re-Assessment of Town Fund.

118. During the year under report a further revision of the assessment of the Town Fund was undertaken with much care and attention, and it is believed that the assessments, which were determined mainly by the Native members of the Local Committees, have been effected satisfactorily. Few complaints have been made, and of those brought to my notice only one seemed to have any reasonable foundation. Although Act XV of 1867, (for the regulation of Municipal Committees,) was declared applicable to the Hyderabad Assigned Districts in January 1868, it was not considered expedient to organize Municipal Committees till a few months ago. At the Towns of Ellichpore, Oomrawuttee, and Yeotmahl in East Berar, and of Akolah, Khamgaon, and Bassim in West Berar,—Committees have been formed under the provisions of the Act. Fair attention has been paid to the improvement of towns. The building for the Town Hall, Museum, and Public Library at Akolah, alluded to in the Administration Report of 1867-68, has been commenced under the superintendence of the Public Works Department. Extensive improvements have been completed in the suburb of Tajnapett at Akolah. At Oomrawuttee a handsome clock tower in the new main square of the City is in progress of construction.

Municipal Committees.

Local Improvements.

Local Fund Receipts and Disbursements.

119. The income at the disposal of the Local District Committees and Municipalities amounted to Rupees 6,15,967-13-2 (£61,597.) and the total disbursements to Rupees 4,99,969-9-2 (£49,997).

SECTION VII.—TOTAL OF PUBLIC WORKS.

Detail of Public Works' Expenditure.

120. The following Statement exhibits and classifies the expenditure by the Public Works Department on Public Works in Berar, during the past two years :—

Years.	Military Works.	Civil Buildings.	Roads.	Miscellaneous Public Improvements.	Establishments.	Local Works.	Total.
	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.
1867-68 ...	43,860	2,60,569	2,16,072	300	85,494	1,20,054	7,26,349
1868-69 ...	23,042	2,48,657	1,10,764	264	96,778	83,336	5,62,841

CHAPTER V.

ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH—POST OFFICE.

Branch Lines.

121. Branch lines of the Government Telegraph wire were, during 1868-69, extended to Akote and Khamgaon, and have proved very profitable. Three Telegraph Offices have also been opened, two in West Berar, at Akote and Sheogaon, and one at Oomrawuttee in East Berar. Much cannot be said regarding the success attending the offices in West Berar; but the financial results relating to the Office at Oomrawuttee, which was open during rather less than six months of the year reported on, show that it was appreciated, as was to be expected of a community having many and large commercial transactions. 1,249 messages were transmitted, and 1,654 received, and the receipts exceeded the expenditure by Rupees 913-14-0 (£91 7*s.*)

Control of the Berar Post Offices.

122. The Post Offices of Berar remained under the control of the Post Master General of Bombay: their transfer, however, to the superintendence of the Chief Inspector of Post Offices in the Central Provinces has lately been sanctioned by the Government of India.

Interior Postal Communications.

123. Many villages, growing in importance, in the interior of the province having been represented as in want of direct postal communication, a system of conveying letters by rural messengers was initiated experimentally in 1868, at a cost of 400 Rupees (£40) per mensem from Local Funds. It is said to have succeeded very satisfactorily, and to have fully met the objects in view.

CHAPTER VI.

FINANCE.

General Results.

124. The entire income of the Administration, inclusive of Local Funds, amounted to ... ...Rupees 80,49,000

And the charges to	„	70,87,000
Apart from Local Funds, the Revenues and Receipts were	„	64,52,000
The charges	„	56,23,000
The realizations exceeded the estimate by	„	3,99,000
And the payments fell short of the sanctioned Budget Grant by ...	„	3,86,000

The main items of increase over estimate are—

Land Revenue ...	Rupees	1,77,000
Stamps	„	1,09,000
Customs	„	1,14,000
Abkarree	„	27,000

The decreases in expenditure occur in Civil Department to the extent of	...Rupees	80,900
Military Department	„	87,000
Public Works	„	2,18,000

The major heads of Revenue and Charge are specified in the Schedule appended.

Comparison with past years.

125. The progress of the Annual Revenue and charge of the Assigned Districts, exclusive of Local Funds and other Debt Accounts, is shown in the following table. It will be seen that the year 1868-69 produced the largest Revenue as yet obtained, and that the growth of the Revenue is in a considerably higher ratio than the increase of charge :—

Years.	Receipts.		Disbursements.	
	Rs.	£	Rs.	£
1861-62	39,38,412	393,841	34,41,617	344,162
1862-63	42,09,049	420,905	35,46,852	354,685
1863-64	42,33,279	423,328	39,33,713	393,371
1864-65	46,84,642	468,464	44,72,735	447,273
1865-66	51,11,855	511,185	49,69,119	496,912
1866-67 (11 months) .	57,99,987	579,999	52,97,282	529,728
1867-68	58,90,843	589,084	53,69,691	536,969
1868-69	64,51,627	645,163	56,22,541	562,254

Relatively to the previous year, the Revenue increased by 9½ per cent., and the charge by 4·7 per cent.

Increase in Customs Revenue.

126. The most conspicuous increase in Revenue has been under Customs, the realizations in 1867-68 having been Rupees 1,61,697 [£16,170,] against Rupees 3,14,055 [£31,405] in 1868-69, but the collections in the former year were the produce of the first six months of the system.

Increase in Land Revenue.

127. In Land Revenue, the increase over the previous year has been Rupees 1,47,600 (£14,760.)

Increase in Stamp Revenue.

128. The yield from Stamps has also improved considerably, the actual increase being Rupees 1,11,000 (£11,100,) and the rate of increase nearly 32 per cent. This is due almost entirely to Judicial Stamps, (styled Impressed Paper in the accounts,) the sales in the previous year having been Rupees 3,27,000 (£32,700,) against Rupees 4,29,000 (£42,900) in 1868-69.

Receipts under Law and Justice.

129. The Receipts from Law and Justice show an improvement of nearly Rupees 26,000 (£2,600,) arising principally from registration fees, which were levied for the first time in 1868-69, and realized Ru-

pees 11,800 [£1,180,] but there is also a substantial increase of Rupees 8,400 [£840] in sale proceeds of Jail Manufactures.

Realizations under Police and Education.

130. The sums credited under Police and Education likewise compare favourably, the increase in the former being Rupees 6,000 [£600,] occurring under the head of Contributions from Municipal and other Funds, and in the latter Rupees 3,000 [£300] chiefly from fees, contributions, and sale proceeds of books.

Military Receipts.

131. The Military Receipts correspond almost exactly with the aggregate in the previous year, but there is a trifling diminution under Public Works Department of less than Rupees 1,000 [£100].

Expenditure under Customs.

132. The heaviest increase in expenditure in the Civil Department has been under Customs, proceeding from a cause already stated. The total cost of the Customs Service amounted to Rupees 1,47,164 [£14,716,] and it brought in a Revenue of Rupees 3,14,055 [£31,405].

Land Revenue Charges.

133. Land Revenue Charges have exceeded the previous year's total by Rupees 66,000 (£6,600). Of this increase, Rupees 30,000 (£3,000) is due to the improved salaries of Deputy and Assistant Commissioners, and to the cost of the two new districts having been borne the entire year. Rupees 12,000 (£1,200) due to increased salaries for the Residency Establishment, and Rupees 21,000 [£2,100] to enlarged Revenue Survey operations.

Miscellaneous Charge.

134. Miscellaneous Services have cost Rupees 58,000 [£5,800,] more in consequence of a heavy loss from exchange and discount on bills. The total loss in the previous year amounted to Rupees 6,507 [£651,] against Rupees 73,340 [£7,334] in 1868-69. But the loss in the present year includes a special item of commission, Rupees 4,919 (£492,) paid to the Bank of Bengal for its services in arranging for raising at Hyderabad the ten lakhs needed for payment to the Nizam's Government. Excluding this, the loss and discount in 1868-69 stand at Rupees 68,422 (£6,842). This serious difference is a reflection of the fluctuations in the local money market. A proposition for reducing the loss caused by such fluctuations by an improved arrangement for raising funds, has been under the consideration of the Government of India.

Loss from Exchange and Discount.

135. Prior to 1867-68, the loss from exchange and discount on Military payments was merged in the general item of loss in the Civil Department.

Adding the loss on Military payments to the amounts above given for the Civil Department, the whole course of the transactions may be presented as follows:—

Gain by Exchange.	Year.	Loss and Discount.
Rupees 15	1861-62	Rs. 1,04,553
,, 4	1862-63	,, 1,08,396
,, 21	1863-64	,, 1,52,872
,, 6,493	1864-65	,, 1,06,910
,, 10,251	1865-66	,, 95,096
,, 20,371	1866-67 (11 months)	,, 65,187
,, 23,065	1867-68	,, 63,858
,, 10,450	1868-69	,, 1,13,080 or
		,, 1,17,998
		[£11,800]

inclusive of the special payment to the Bank above mentioned.

Police Charges.

136. The cost of the Berar Police reached Rupees 4,68,600 (£46,860) in 1868-69, being Rupees 31,000 (£3,100) in excess of the previous charge. The particulars of the increase have been separately mentioned.

Charges under Administration and Public Departments.

137. Charges under Administration and Public Departments show a comparative increase of Rupees 30,000 [£3,000,] due principally to the cost attending the Division of Berar into two Commissionerships having been borne for the entire year.

Charges under Law and Justice.

138. Under Law and Justice an increase of Rupees 25,000 [£2,500] has resulted. This comprehends the cost of the Ellichpore Small Cause Court previously paid from Talabana Funds, of the Khamgaon Court opened during the year, and of the newly established Registration Department. The cost of raw produce for Jail industry rose from Rupees 365 [£36 10*s.*] in 1867-68, to Rupees 4,672 [£467 4*s.*] in 1868-69, and will rise yet higher. The outlay is prosperous, as it produces a considerably heavier income from sale of the manufactures. Medical Services rose from Rupees 26,600 (£2,660) in 1867-68, to Rupees 47,900 (£4,790) in 1868-69. Nearly Rupees 13,000 (£1,300) of the increase was caused by

higher salaries for Assistant and Sub-Assistant Surgeons, Jail and travelling allowances; Rupees 5,500 (£550) by extended vaccine operations; and Rupees 3,300 [£330], the one-third cost borne by Government for the newly founded Charitable Dispensaries.

Charges under Education, Science, and Art.

139. For Education, Science, and Art, Rupees 12,000 (£1,200) more were spent, the extra payments being

Scholarships and prizes	... Rupees	... 5,000
Government Book Depôt	... „	... 5,000
Topographical Survey	... „	... 6,000

A decrease of Rupees 4,000 [£400] in salaries of head masters Government schools reduces the aggregate to Rupees 12,000 [£1,200.]

Forest Charges.

140. Forests charges amounted to Rupees 13,000 [£1,300] in excess of the previous year, due to expansion of working.

Allowances, Refunds, and Drawbacks.

141. Allowances, Refunds, and Drawbacks, have also an excess of Rupees 14,000 (£1,400), but of this, Rupees 6,500 (£650) is nominal, being a refund from Berar of duty fairly creditable to the Central Provinces. The remainder represents refunds of Stamp duty and of Fees, Fines, and Forfeitures, under the operation of the law.

Discount on Sale of Stamps.

142. An increase of Rupees 4,000 [£400] in discount on sale of stamps marks the increased sales noticed in a previous paragraph: while a few additional pensions and some gratuities have caused an inconsiderable excess under Superannuations.

Stationery and Printing Charges.

143. Stationery and Printing charges show a decrease of Rupees 5,000 [£500,] but this is nominal, as the claims of the Bombay Stationery Department for supplies in 1868-69 have, it is believed, not all been settled.

Military Payments.

144. The Military payments of the year fell short of the estimate by Rupees 87,000 (£8,700,) and of the payments of the previous year by Rupees 30,000 (£3,000,) the decrease occurring principally under Commissariat Supplies, and in the item of compensation for dearness of provisions for men, and food for horses. The chief items

of increase and decrease, compared with the actuals of 1867-68, are—

Head of Service.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rupees.	Rupees.
Commissariat supplies and services	...	1,70,349
Regimental pay and allowances ...	51,777	...
Pensions	73,890	...
Clothing	15,269	...
Ordnance Establishment, store, and equipage	...	14,838
Miscellaneous and contingencies ...	...	10,747
Army and Garrison staff ...	8,452	...
Stud and Remount Departments ...	8,796	...
Medical Establishment ...	7,714	...

The progress of the annual charges on account of the Hyderabad Contingent is given in the annexed table:—

Years.	Amount.	
	Rs.	£
1861-62	24,36,955	243,695
1862-63	24,09,912	240,991
1863-64	25,31,013	253,101
1864-65	28,32,557	283,256
1865-66	29,53,618	295,362
1866-67 (11 months)	28,57,502	285,750
1867-68	29,30,527	293,053
1868-69	28,99,853	289,985

Public Works Expenditure.

145. The Public Works expenditure fell short of the estimate by Rupees 2,17,566 (£21,757,) and of the expenditure of the previous year by Rupees 1,29,186 (£12,919.)

The decrease is thus distributed:—

	Rupees.
Original works	1,34,421
Repairs	3,652
Tools and Plant	2,398
Total...	1,40,471
Increased cost of Establishment...	11,285
Net decrease...	1,29,186 (£12,919)

The causes of the decrease have been stated in a separate Section. The progress of Public Works expenditure will be seen from the annexed table:—

Years.	Amount.	
	Rs.	£
1861-62	1,02,035	10,203
1862-63	1,50,200	15,020
1863-64	3,38,408	33,841
1864-65	4,90,980	49,098
1865-66	5,01,250	50,125
1866-67 (11 months)	5,05,615	50,561
1867-68	6,11,620	61,162
1868-69	4,82,434	48,243

Local Funds.

146. The Local Fund operations of the year have also been prosperous:—

The receipts were ... ... Rs. 80,000 } in advance of
The charges ... ... „ 49,000 } the previous
And the closing balance ... „ 1,32,900 } year.

The general result for each class of Funds is presented in the following table:—

Class of Funds.	Opening balance.	Receipts during the year.	Charges during the year.	Closing balance.
	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.
Police Funds	67,733	76,364	80,384	63,713
Public Works Funds	1,40,039	5,53,043	5,49,695	1,43,387
Village Expense Fund	3,17,570	7,60,760	6,79,565	3,98,765
Bazar Funds of the Hyderabad Contingent	5,458	69,024	61,860	12,622
Miscellaneous Funds	11,958	69,717	46,838	34,837
Education Cess	53,444	68,351	45,964	75,831
Total...	5,96,202 (£59,620)	15,97,259 (£159,726)	14,64,306 (£146,431)	7,29,155 (£72,915)

Check and Control of Local Funds.

147. During the course of the year, a Committee, consisting of the Secretary to the Resident Public Works Department, the Deputy Accountant Ge-

neral, and the Controller of Public Works Accounts, was assembled at Bolarum to consider the best means of bringing the Local Funds expenditure under a check as rigid as that applied to the charges paid from the Berar Revenues. The Deputy Accountant General, however, left India before the report of the Committee was matured, and the conclusions of the remaining members were referred to another and larger Committee, convened at Akolah, which approved generally of the recommendations placed before them. A definite set of rules and forms is now in course of preparation to effect the desired purpose.

Deposits.

148. The deposit transactions of the year are shown below :—

	Amount.	
	Rs.	£
Opening Balance	2,83,238	28,324
Receipts	3,12,192	31,219
Total...	5,95,430	59,543
Payments...	2,87,855	28,785
Closing Balance...	3,07,575	30,758

Cash Balances.

149. The Cash Balance, held in the Treasuries of the Hyderabad Assigned Districts at the close of the year 1868-69, amounted to Rupees 50,36,000 (£503,600.)

Approximately the constituents of this sum were—

	Rupees.
Local Funds, Deposits, and other Debt Accounts	5,83,631
Balance due to Government of India	21,22,500
Berar Revenue balance proper...	23,30,046

Surplus paid to the Nizam.

150. The payment of 10 lakhs to His Highness the Nizam, on account of the declared available surplus to end of 1866-67, was effected in August of this year. The amount was remitted in specie from Berar to

Bombay, at a cost of Rupees 2,752, and thence drawn by Bills at the rate of 115-0-2 Hallee Sicca Rupees per hundred Government Rupees. The total sum paid to the Nizam in Hallee Sicca Rupees was eleven lakhs fifty thousand one hundred and four, annas two, and pie eight. In March 1867, when a payment of five lakhs was made to the Nizam, the rate of exchange was 113-12-0 Hallee Sicca Rupees per hundred Government Rupees; the payment on the last occasion was thus effected through the Agency of the Bank of Bengal on more favourable terms, securing to His Highness a better out-turn for the money.

Money Order Department.

151. The Money Order Department was instituted in the Assigned Districts in May 1867, and worked for 11 months of that year. In 1868-69 two new Agencies were opened, one at Ellichpore, the other at Bassim, making seven in all. The comparative result of the two years' working is given in the subjoined table:—

Years.	Number of Orders issued.	Value of Orders issued.	Number of Orders paid.	Value of Orders paid.	Commission and Lapsed Orders.		
					Commission.	Lapsed Orders.	Total.
		Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1867-68	2,446	1,85,793	449	27,077	2,009	...	2,009
1868-69	3,228	1,97,700	891	52,901	2,192	230	2,422
Increase in 1868-69...	782	11,907 (£1,191)	442	25,824 (£2,582)	183 (£18)	230 (£23)	413 (£41)

Out of the total number of Orders issued, 493 were on Agencies within the Berar Circle, aggregating a value of Rupees 27,550 (£2,755). Of the total number of Orders paid, 491 were drawn by Agencies within the Berar Circle, and the value reached Rupees 27,296 (£2,730.)

Departmental Charges.

152. The charges of the Department, including Controller's Clerks, Commission to Money Order Agents, Clerk of Money Order Agent, Hyderabad, amounted to Rupees 1,975 (£197,) against Commission and lapsed Orders to the extent of Rupees 2,422 (£242), leaving a clear gain of Rupees 447 [£45,] the profits of working.

Berar Paper Currency.

153. The Berar Paper Currency Circle was organized this year, and opened on the

1st September 1868. The transactions across the counter of the Currency Office were as follows:—

	Rupees.
Notes issued for cash	4,55,230
Notes of one denomination changed for Notes of another denomination ...	18,790
Notes encashed at the Currency counter	1,35,120

Arrangements are now in progress for disseminating the Currency Notes throughout the Assigned Districts, and for facilitating their encashment, so far as may be practicable in the present state of the Cash reserves of the Berars. The Paper Currency Office at Akolah is entirely under the control of the Imperial Currency Department, and it is only when the Notes are received into the local Treasuries on purchase, exchange, or payment of Government demands, that they pass into the hands of the Hyderabad Administration.

The Certificate Tax.

154. The Certificate Tax realized Rupees 9,058 (£906.) In the previous year the License Tax came to Rupees 7,760 (£776). These collections do not form a part of the income of the Hyderabad Assigned Districts, but are credited Imperially.

Postal and Telegraph Departments.

155. Similarly, the transactions of the Postal and Telegraph Departments are adjusted on the books of the Government of India. The actual results for those Departments were:—

	1867-68.		1868-69.
	Rupees.		Rupees.
Post Office—Sale of Stamps ...	21,197	.....	29,031
Collections	24,550	.....	24,187
Total ...	45,747	.....	53,218
	[£4,575]	.....	[£5,322]
Establishment charges and Contingencies	53,501	.....	59,553
Telegraph Department, Receipts		.....	4,781
Charges		.....	11,849

Inspection of Treasuries.

156. The Treasuries at Oomrawuttee and Akolah were inspected by the Deputy Accountant General at the close of the year under review, and the improvements then suggested have been mostly effected since.

* There were no transactions in this year.

CHAPTER VII.

ECCLESIASTICAL.

Church at Ellichpore.

157. The foundation of a small church at Ellichpore, the head-quarters of the Chaplain for the Province, has been laid, and the structure had advanced last March so far as the completion of the plinth. It is estimated to cost Rupees 8,200 (£820); to meet which, a grant of Rupees 5,000 (£500) has been sanctioned by Government.

CHAPTER VIII.

POLITICAL.

Adjustment of Claims of Ghond Rajahs in Mailghat.

158. The claims put forward by the Ghond Rajahs of Mailghat, and the principles sanctioned by the Government of India for their adjustment were described in the last Report, and include all that requires notice under the head of Political in the Hyderabad Assigned Districts. The arrangements proposed in settlement of these claims would have been finally concluded some months ago, but that on the eve of their completion it was brought to notice that some modification was necessary in the interests of the State as regards the land selected for award in commutation of the payments previously derived by the Rajahs from certain irregular dues which the Government deemed it right and necessary to prohibit. For instance, the largest claim of all, that of the Makla Rajah, was about to be settled, on his application, by a grant in jagheer of a number of villages which absorb not less than one-half of the valuable forest lands already demarcated as a State reserve; and although it was never contemplated that the right over timber produced in these lands should pass out of the hands of the Government, but merely that one-third of the profits arising from the Forest Revenue of Mailghat should be distributed

among the several Rajahs, still it was represented that unless the entire control over the land, as well as the timber, should rest with the Forest Department, it will hardly be possible to carry out any systematic conservancy. Hence the land commutations are still under consideration, orders having issued to stay final action for the present, and to disburse only the money payments due. In order that the Rajahs should have no ground of complaint, one or two advances of money, to be adjusted hereafter, have been authorized. On the conclusion of the arrangements still open, I propose submitting a detailed report to the Government.

CHAPTER IX.

MILITARY.

Strength and Stations of Troops in Berar.

159. The only Troops located within the Hyderabad Assigned Districts are those of the Hyderabad Contingent. The following Statement shows their strength, and the stations they occupy:—

ELLICHPORE.

4th Regiment of Infantry.
Detachment 3rd Cavalry, Hyderabad Contingent, one Troop.
No. 3 Battery of Artillery.

AKOLAH.

Detachment of two Companies of 6th Infantry.

OOMRAWUTTEE.

Detachment of one Company of 4th Infantry.

CHAPTER X.

FORESTS.

Change in Forest administration.

160. The measures for effecting a change in the administration of the Forests were

detailed in the last Report, and the position and resources of the Berar Forests were described in the Report for 1866-67. During the year under review, the general supervision of all matters connected with Forest Administration continued to rest with the Conservator for the Central Provinces. But in March last, the services of a separate Deputy Conservator were made available, and this Officer is now charged with the control formerly exercised by the Conservator at Nagpore in respect to the Hyderabad Assigned Districts.

Forest Rules---Working of

161. In noticing the working of the amended rules for the management of Forests, drawn up by a Committee in March 1868, under the presidency of Major Pearson, who, while Conservator of the Central Provinces, undertook with much ability the task of directing the operations of the Forest Department from its beginning, the Commissioner of West Berar writes:—"The dues on timber brought from the "Forests in Mailghat were lowered, and a system was devised of "collecting these dues at certain wood-markets at certain villages "in the plain along the skirts of the Satpooras. The fees levied "on cattle grazing in those hills were also much reduced. It had "formerly been the practice to permit contractors to levy their "timber dues at all the roads where they debouched from the "hills, and to lay on grazing fees that were nearly prohibitive." It is believed that this reduction of rates, and an improved method of collecting them, will relieve the people who inhabit the northern tracts of Berar from a burden, likely to cause more damage than profit to the general revenues, as grass and wood are necessaries in which the valley of Berar is lamentably deficient.

Forest Revenue.

162. The Revenue derived from Forests, shows a gross increase of Rupees 5,031-1-4 (£503 2*s.*) over the preceding year, as tabulated below :—

RECEIPTS.

	Amount.		
	Rs.	A.	P.
I.—Sale of timber by Government Agency	4,320	12	1
IV.—Permit fees and rent of Jungles	70,056	11	0
V.—Grazing dues	2,802	4	10
VII.—Sale of confiscated timber	9	0	0
VIII.—Fines and forfeitures	11	15	5
IX.—Miscellaneous	165	12	0
Total ...	77,366	7	4
Total Forest Revenue for 1867-68 ...	72,335	6	0
Increase ...	5,031	1	4
	(£503)		

Forest Expenditure.

163. The expenditure incurred by the Department has nearly doubled during the year, having risen from Rupees 15,567-14-7 (£1,557,) to Rupees 30,507-2-9 (£3,051,) owing to increase of Establishments. In addition to this, the amount paid for the Establishment and contingent expenses of District Forests, and which is now charged to the Forest Department for the first time, aggregated Rupees 51,101-3-6• (£5,110.) The total expenditure of Rupees 81,608-6-3 (£8,161,) therefore shows a deficit in the net revenue of Rupees 4,241-14-11 (£424 3*s.*) Against this, however, must be set the "outstanding balances" amounting to Rupees 21,071-15-4 (£2,107;) but of which only Rupees 5,466-12-4 (£546 13*s.*) are expected to be recovered, the remainder being due from a contractor who has declared himself insolvent.

Management of unreserved Forests.

164. "The regular management of the unreserved forests by District Officers may be said to have commenced in 1868, and it is yet scarcely in proper form, mainly because the rules were only issued recently, and the forest lands, as distinguished from arable waste, have not been clearly demarcated. The Revenue Survey includes most of these wastes within village areas, and their produce is usually brought to credit of Land Revenue, but where there are extensive wolds or woods, which are not likely to be cleared for cultivation, or which require conservation as reserves for timber or fuel, such tracts if not assigned to the Forest Department, are to be declared District Forests, and are already under the superintendence of the Deputy Commissioners."

Forest explored in Mailghat.

165. With the exception of the tract selected in 1867 as a *reserve*, the forests in the Mailghat Hills still remain to be explored for the selection of two other suitable localities for State forests. The completion of this duty will, it is believed, be reported in a few months.

Boundary Marks.

166. On the recommendation of Dr. Brandis, the Inspector General of Forests, the masonry pillars used for denoting the boundary marks have been abandoned, being considered unnecessarily expensive. In their "stead, pillars of loose stone erected, five feet high, with a teak "pole in the centre, bearing a current number, will be used for the "future."

Nurseries and Plantations.

167. "The nurseries hitherto formed have been abandoned, the sites selected, through excess of sand and shade, not being favorable to the germination of teak seed. The present nursery, which is under the Forester's

superintendence, covers an area of about a quarter of an acre; it is situated on the banks of the river Sipna, and sheltered on three sides, with a southern exposure throughout its greatest extent: the soil is a tolerably rich black loam."

Fires.

168. This extract from the Report of the Deputy Conservator may be followed by another on a point of much interest in Forest Conservancy—the damage done by fires—

"The fires throughout the Mailghat have been this year as "general as usual, and as far as I am able to judge, it seems hope- "less to suppose this pernicious practice—to Forest Conservancy— "can be checked at once ; for the present all that can be done, "is to turn our attention to the protection of the more valuable "portions of our State Forests ; and with this object, perhaps no "better system can be introduced than that suggested by Dr. "Brandis, which will necessitate the richer portions of the reserves "being formed into blocks, and closed both to the grazing of cattle "and felling of timber. Each of these blocks will be in charge of "a separate watcher, whose duty will be to see the fire-paths kept "perfectly clear, and that the Conservancy Rules are strictly en- "forced. This system will, it is hoped, not only give timber trees "time to recover from the evil effects of the fires, but likewise in a "few years result in the extermination of the grass, from density "of shade, enabling us thereby to gradually convert the whole of "the reserves into one continuous Teak Forest."

Inspection of Forests by Dr. Brandis.

169. A visit to Berar last March from Dr. Brandis, the Inspector General of Forests under the Government of India, has proved of great advantage to the important interests our Forest Administration is meant to conserve; a variety of questions having been benefited by the knowledge and experience brought to bear on them by the Inspector General in the course of his tour of inspection.

CHAPTER XI.

ARCHÆOLOGY.

170. The reports received from the different Districts enable me to add little to what was written last year regarding Ar-

chæological remains in the Hyderabad Assigned Districts. The subject has engaged attention, and it is thoroughly understood that relics of architectural beauty, rare antique design, or historical interest, are to be properly conserved.

Photographs of ancient Hindoo Architecture.

171. Mr. Lyall has submitted some good photographs (which accompany this Report) of the best specimens of ancient Hindoo architecture in West Berar, and his remarks on these are worthy of record. He writes as follows:—

Remarks on the above.

172. "Some of these architectural remains are very striking, all are curious, and as most of them can be assigned to known styles and epochs, they will enable competent explorers to trace more surely the dim outline of the history of this Province during the centuries immediately preceding the Mahometan conquest. The few beautiful specimens of Jaina sanctuaries support the popular tradition that a Jain dynasty of Rajahs reigned at Ellichpore, and the numerous temples designed and sculptured in the rich luxuriant style called *Chalukya* may attest the hypothesis (probable in itself) that this country was long under one of the Rajpoot dynasties that reigned at Kullyan and Deogir (Dowlutabad). But it is possible that an inscription copied from one of the finest temples (at Barsee-Taklee close to Akolah) will give when it is deciphered some certain date to the class of buildings to which that temple belongs."

"We have also a plain rock cut Bhuddist monastery at Pathoor; its front is blocked up by debris and stone heaps, which are now being slowly removed."

Mussulman Architecture.

"In Mussulman architecture, we have the gate of the Narnulla fort, mentioned in last year's Report, where I omitted to say that it is inscribed with the name and titles of one of the Bahmunee kings. There are also two handsome mosques at Futtehkelda and Rond Keira, the latter bears the date of 1582."

Researches still in progress.

"These few notes will assure the Resident, I hope, that researches have not entirely stood still since last year, and that we are doing something in a pioneering way for the benefit of real archæologists, whenever they may take up the unbroken ground which Berar offers to them."

CHAPTER XII.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SECTION I.—COTTON.

The Season and Crop.

173. The rainy season of 1868-69 was, in Berar, an anxious time for all connected with the cotton trade. The rain-fall hardly exceeded one-half the average fall for the Provinces, the downpour was unequally distributed, and from the long breaks of hot clear weather which occurred early in the season serious damage to the crop was, at one time, apprehended. It is, however, satisfactory to record in favor of the hardiness of the indigenous plant that, notwithstanding the unfavourable season, the cotton crop was an excellent one, equal, the Cotton Commissioner reports, both in quality and quantity to the culture of any previous year.

Exotic Cottons unsuccessful.

174. The season, weathered in safety by the indigenous plant, was, however, fatal more or less to the exotic varieties, and this circumstance would seem to demonstrate clearly the unsuitability of exotic cottons to the peculiar and capricious climate of the Berars. Experiments with American, acclimatized Dharwar, and other cottons were undertaken by the Cotton Commissioner, but without success, the want of rain being in most cases fatal to the plants. The quality of the cotton produced was inferior, as will be seen from the subjoined extract from the opinion of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce on the samples, and their views regarding the suitability of the exotic variety to the Berars are deserving of the fullest consideration:—

"You will observe from the terms of the report on each sample, that as regards the cotton grown from Dharwar acclimatized, and from New Orleans seed, the reports are not of an encouraging character; and the Committee, after a careful examination of the samples, are of opinion that the weak and somewhat exhausted nature of the staple would only be more strikingly developed by further experiments with seed from the same varieties. It is the opinion of this Chamber, based on knowledge derived from the inspection of a very large number of samples, that no exotic variety that could be grown in the Berars will equal in value and

usefulness the indigenous varieties of the country, known as Oomrawuttee and Hingunghat; and the Committee are of opinion that whatever can be done to maintain the present high character of those varieties, or, if possible, to improve it, would be one of the most important services that could be rendered to the cause of improved cotton cultivation in the Districts of country under the Cotton Commissioner's superintendence."

The system of seed-gardens, as recommended by Major Trevor Clarke, was persevered in, and a considerable quantity of superior indigenous seed was selected, which has been sown this season in the seed-gardens recently established near Oomrawuttee and Sheogaon.

Acreage under cultivation.

175. Compared with the acreage of former years the area sown with cotton during the year under report has increased. The figures are given below, and are somewhat complicated by the re-distribution of the administrative circles, which has transformed the old Akolah and Mekhur Districts into Akolah, Booldanah, and Bassim, and by a similar sub-division of territory has added Ellichpore to the list of Districts in East Berar.

Statement showing the area under cotton cultivation in the Berars during the years 1867-68 *and* 1868-69 *:—*

Districts.	1867-68.	1868-69.	Increase.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Oomrawuttee	418,353	196,726	
Ellichpore		252,214	
Woon	175,800	107,845	
Akolah	550,571	436,722	
Booldanah	109,828	211,029	
Bassim		61,277	
Total ...	1,254,552	1,265,813	11,261

Taking the cultivated area of the Berars at 4,947,187 acres, cotton monopolizes nearly 25 per cent.* of the total cultivated area. In the Akolah and Oomrawuttee Districts the percentage is as high as 32·45 and 28, respectively. The out-turn per acre compared with the average out-turn in America, is still small—not exceeding 100 lbs. in the best lands. But it is hoped that the experiments now being conducted with manure and irrigation may admit of mea-

* The Cotton Commissioner estimates it at 27 per cent., but his figures do not coincide with those of the District returns.

sures being adopted in the future to increase largely the cotton supply now drawn from the Berars.

Exports.

176. The exports of cotton for the Province during the past season are shown below. The calculation has been made in bales of half a Bombay kandy, or 400 lbs. net of cotton each :—

		Bales.
By Railway...	...	228,700
By Road ... $\frac{\text{Dokras. } 13,270}{3}$	=	4,300
Total ...		233,000

These figures show a satisfactory increase over the returns of the two preceding years, 1866-67 and 1867-68, when the exports amounted to 222,000 and 20,700 bales respectively. The whole of the trade, it may be noted, is with Bombay. The small quantity shown in the return as sent by cart, is carried across into the adjacent Bombay District of Ahmednuggur by the Sawergaon ghât, and is in part intercepted and consumed locally, the remainder finding its way to Bombay *viâ* Panwell.

Improved transport by Rail.

177. The most satisfactory feature connected with this season's cotton traffic is the completion of the arrangements, initiated some time back by the officials of the G. I. P. Railway Company, for promptly carrying off the cotton crop from the Berars and for putting a stop to the cotton "blocks," which in former seasons were events of regular occurrence. The greatest credit is due to the Traffic Department of the G. I. P. Company for the earnest and indefatigable manner in which they applied themselves to remove the many difficulties with which the cotton trade had to contend, and to perfect the arrangements at the Railway stations, and it is satisfactory to notice that the "blocks" on the line are now quite of the past, and that the cotton being carried off as fast as it arrives at the stations, the Government cotton yards have been found to be no longer necessary, and have therefore been discontinued.

I should add also that this important reform, like most of the benefits that have lately been secured to the cotton trade of the Province, has been hastened by the energy and tact of the Cotton Commissioner, Mr. Rivett Carnac.

Traffic Statistics.

178. The ease with which the cotton traffic is now managed is doubtless partly due to the great advance which the system of "full-pressing," and "half-

pressing" the cotton in the Districts has made during the year. Whereas three years ago nearly the whole of the Berar crop was sent down to Bombay weekly packed in bags, or dokras, the dokra now is even more rare than the "bale" was a short time ago, as will be shown by the following eloquent figures:—

Years.	Full-pressed bales.	Half-pressed bales.	Dokras.
1866-67	644 ...	41,866 ...	574,338
1867-68	31,659 ...	145,733 ...	152,122
1868-69	65,957 ...	151,607 ...	30,993

The above figures do not include the traffic by road, which, as previously shown, is extremely small, *viz.*, 4,300 bales, or only about 1·8 per cent. of our total exports, and which will always be confined to "dokra" cotton. Taking the Railway traffic, however, which represents 98·2 per cent. of our exports—about 29 per cent. is in full-pressed, 66½ per cent. in half-pressed bales, 4½ per cent. in dokras: or in other words 95½ per cent. of our cotton is now sent down more or less pressed, whilst but 4½ per cent. is packed in the now almost obsolete dokras.

Cotton Presses.

179. The machinery for pressing the cotton has been added to. The firm of Messrs. Jules Siegfried and Company have recently set up two powerful steam full presses at the market of Khamgaon; and the presses at Khamgaon and Budneira belonging to the Berar Company have been got into excellent working order during the year. Adding to these the presses of the Mofussil Company at Khamgaon, Sheogaon, and Oomrawuttee, we have in the Province twelve full presses worked by steam. The number of full presses worked by manual power is six, the same as last year; the presses being placed in pairs at the markets of Khamgaon, Akote, and Oomrawuttee. The half-presses now number 125, and are distributed at the various markets and chief Railway stations. Now that the Railway authorities have perfected the traffic arrangements, the system of half-pressing is not to be regarded with so much favor as heretofore. If it should be extended to out-of-the way places where inspection is difficult, it may, the Cotton Commissioner fears, afford facilities for adulteration, of which the present system of bringing the cotton to market in the loose dokra, which can be examined without difficulty, does not admit.

Seed Gardens.

180. With the sanction of His Excellency the Viceroy in Council two experimental seed gardens have been established this season at Sheogaon and Oomrawuttee, and two Assistants to the Cotton Commissioner have been appointed, who, among other duties, have charge of the experiments which are being conducted at those farms. Careful

trials are being made of the effect of manure and irrigation on the various descriptions of cotton, and a large area has been sown with selected indigenous seed from which a good supply of superior seed for next season's operations may be expected.

Communications.

181. The important subject of Communications, on the perfecting of which the continued prosperity of the cotton trade so much depends, has received due attention. All the markets of the Berars are now joined by the Electric Telegraph, and a separate line for the exclusive use of the cotton trade will be ready by the approaching season. The postal communication has been improved by the establishment of "tangâs" or mail carts for the conveyance of the mails between Nandoorah and Khamgaon, Sheogaon and Khamgaon, and Budneira and Oomrawuttee.

A road has been made to improve the communication between the rich lands above the ghâts, or high land lying south of Khamgaon and the Poornah valley, and this will much facilitate the transport of the ghât or upland cotton to market. The various cross-country lines leading to the markets have received attention at the hands of the District authorities, and are as good as mere 'fair weather tracks' well can be.

The branch lines to the great markets at Khamgaon and Oomrawuttee,* as having a very important bearing on the future of our cotton trade, are deserving of a passing notice here. When these two branches shall have been completed, then the 150,000 bales composing the supply of these two great markets may be carried by the Railway for the whole distance from the press-house in the cotton district to the wharf at Bombay. The three greatest obstacles to the progress of the cotton trade in the interior of India were long cited to be, (1) the inaccessibility of the cotton markets, and the consequent impossibility of the European Agent dealing direct with the producer, (a system which provides the very best security against adulteration ; (2) the great cost of carrying the produce to the sea-bord ; and (3) the great length and difficulty of the land journey which afforded so many opportunities of adulterating the cotton. All these difficulties will be successfully removed by the assistance of pressing machinery, and the Railway brought home to our chief cotton markets.

Prospects of present season.

182. The monsoon is sufficiently advanced to admit of a forecast of the cotton crop

* The line to Khamgaon will, it is hoped, be opened early in the year 1870; the proposition for a branch to Oomrawuttee is before the Government, and hopes are entertained of its being sanctioned, and of the work being commenced in the course of a few months.

of this season. This year's monsoon in the Berars would appear to have inherited all the capriciousness of its predecessors. The rain-fall up to date has been considerably below the average, and the downpours have been interspersed with long breaks of hot weather, which again have caused great anxiety. Fortunately, however, the rain has always returned just in time to save the crop, and the prospects are now favourable. The price of cotton has continued so high as to afford every inducement to the cultivator to sow this crop, and on all sides it is reported that the cultivation has extended. With a favourable season it may be hoped that the cotton crop of the Berars, which now amounts to nearly a quarter of a million of bales, may be able still further to supply the wants of the Home market.

SECTION II.—PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANATATION.

Registration incomplete.

183. Owing to deficient means, the improvement of which continues to receive attention, the Vital and Mortuary Statistics obtained by Registration, though probably more reliable than those of last year, are still open to doubt.

184. The total population under registration amounts to 1,894,568, or nearly five-sixths of the population of Berar. There were 35,268 births registered, giving a ratio of 19 per *mille* of the population under registration, or one in 52. The rate for the towns of West Berar is higher, being 21·6 per *mille*, or one in 40; the highest rate 30·2 per *mille*, or one in 33 of the population returned from the towns of the Akolah District, equals the average birth rate for Great Britain.

Births.

Deaths.

185. The deaths registered amount to 36,144, or 19·4 per *mille* of the population under registration, or one in 51. Here, as with the births, the rate for the Urban population is higher, being 26·3 per *mille*, or one in 38; and the rate for the towns of Akolah District 31·2 per *mille*, or 1 in 32.

Births and Deaths compared.

186. Comparing total births with total deaths, the returns furnish the following figures:—

	Births.	Deaths.
In Urban population ...	1 in 40 ...	1 in 38
In total population ...	1 in 52 ...	1 in 51

These results are by no means satisfactory, but they probably indicate inefficient registration rather than the true rate of vital increase.

Causes of Death.

187. The causes of deaths registered are thus abstracted :—

	No. of Deaths.		
Fever...	10,936, or	30·2	per cent. of deaths from all causes.
Cholera	5,447, or	14·7	per cent. do.
Small Pox	3,497, or	*9·7	per cent. do.
Diseases of the bowels.	5,489, or	15·2	per cent. do.
Other Diseases	9,789, or	33	per cent. do.

Violent Deaths.

188. Deaths from violence are returned as follows:—

Suicide ...	... 217
Accident ...	... 531
By wild beasts	... 47
By snake bites	... 190
Homicide ...	... 2

Cholera and Conservancy.

189. The above figures and comments have been taken from the Sanitary Commissioner's Review of the District returns; from the same source the following remarks, with regard to the cholera that prevailed, may be extracted :—

"Village Conservancy Rules have for some time been in force "in Berar, and in all Districts efforts have been made to improve "the sanitary condition of the towns and villages. Wells have "been repaired, and general cleanliness insisted on, and when "cholera threatened, warnings were issued by District Officers to "Tehseeldars and others to pay increased attention to cleanliness "and conservancy. It is probably due to the action that has been "taken in these matters, that although the epidemic was very "generally diffused over the whole Province, no excessive mor-"tality occurred in any locality. The loss of life, however, has "been considerable; and it is evident that the conditions favorable "to the diffusion of cholera exist very generally throughout the "Province."

Effect of high prices.

190. I do not know whether the high prices that prevailed had any palpable effect upon the public health ; they must have tended to reduce the usual allowances of food consumed by the poorer classes, some of whom were driven to subsist almost upon berries and jungle fruits.

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* The Sanitary Commissioner has reason to doubt the correctness of this percentage owing to deficient registration in one District. He believes that 8 per cent., the rate for the Towns of West Berar, is about the true average for the Province.

Proposal regarding Sanitary Commissioner.

191. The services of Dr. Townsend, who, as Sanitary Commissioner of the Central Provinces, has assisted this Administration also by many useful suggestions, deserve cordial acknowledgment ; a proposal, however, has been made to secure for Berar a separate Officer, who giving his whole attention to the Province can direct enquiry and effort from constant *personal* observation, an aid of the highest value in the furtherance of all sanitary measures.

SECTION III.—HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES.

192. This Section should be prefaced with the remark that a want of good Hospital Assistants to place in charge of Dispensaries has limited the number of these institutions in Berar. As this hindrance is overcome, we may look for a wider extension of medical relief. The work of the year is thus epitomised in the Inspector General's Report :—

" Three new dispensaries have been opened, some buildings have " been pushed on vigorously, and money is in hand for the con- " struction of others. The attendance has increased at the rate of " 147 per cent., and the income from local sources, donations from " Local Funds, and subscriptions from Natives, has also increased " by Rupees 5,751-9-0 (£575 3*s.*), and there is a good balance to " the credit of the Institutions."

Existing Dispensaries.

193. The places at which dispensaries were working at the close of the year reported on by the Inspector General are :—

Akolah District	1. Akolah.
	2. Akote.
	3. Ballapore.
	4. Khamgaon.
Booldanah	5. Mulkapore.
Oomrawuttee	6. Oomrawuttee.
Woon District.	7. Yeotmahl.
	8. Woon.

And in February 1869, two more Dispensaries were opened at Karinjah (Oomrawuttee District), and at Darwa (Woon District).

Increase in the number of Patients treated.

194. An increase in the number of patients treated is to be noted in the case of every dispensary, but favorable though the following figures appear in contrast, they evidence but a slight, yet hopeful, measure of success :—

Years.	Number of Patients treated.	In-door.	Out-door.	Male.	Female.
1867	1,913	53	1,860	1,517	396
1868	4,731	88	4,643	3,619	1,112

Managing Agency and Contributions.

195. The management of these institutions has been placed almost entirely in the hands of the District Local Committees, whose influence and interest are thus directly enlisted in their behalf. The contributions from Native subscribers amounted to Rupees 13,980-9-8 (£1,398,) against Rupees 9,988-0-6 (£999) in 1867, an increase which marks very gratifying liberality.

Total Expenditure.

196. The total expenditure was Rupees 7,846-3-9 (£785,) against Rupees 4,290-4-1 (£429) in 1867, leaving a *floating* capital to the credit of these institutions of Rupees 18,127-13-11 (£1,813,) against Rupees 9,745-5-4 (£974) in the preceding year.

SECTION IV.—VACCINATION.

Difficulties encountered.

197. The unwillingness of the people to avail themselves of the benefit of vaccination still continues, though the Superintendent General has done much to remove it by personal effort and explanation. He says—"there "was a general impression throughout the Berars that inocula- "tion and vaccination are identical, and that all the trouble, reli- "gious ceremony, expense and danger attending the one would "be entailed by the other, and although I did not encounter a "single inoculation throughout the Province, it was extremely "difficult to satisfy the people that small-pox was not the result "of vaccination."

Vaccine Establishment.

198. The Vaccine Establishment at the disposal of the Superintendent General has been augmented by the addition of 7 Assistants—making 19 in all.

Results of work performed.

199. The results of the work performed, in spite of prejudice—which time and the influence of the District Officers are gradually dissipating, show no inconsiderable progress, as will be seen from the table subjoined:—

Districts.	Total number vaccinated.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Doubtful.	Unknown.	Re-vaccinated.	Successful.	Unsuccessful.
Akolah	3,581	1,797	811	692	281	185	140	45
Booldanah	1,174	631	386	110	47	140	114	26
Bassim	2,896	2,320	295	234	47	163	142	21
Oomrawuttee	1,203	544	265	292	102	14	13	1
Ellichpore	1,247	827	307	92	21	22	14	8
Woon	2,997	1,854	860	136	147	98	84	14
Total... ...	13,098	7,973	2,924	1,556	645	622	507	115

Percentage of ascertained successful cases ... 62

Do. of unsuccessful 22

In the remaining cases, the result was doubtful or unknown.

"The cases returned as doubtful"—writes Dr. Brake—"are those in which the vaccine vesicles have appeared, but have been broken before the seventh day. The persons are in all probability protected against small-pox."

Besides the above, 169 persons were vaccinated at the several Charitable Dispensaries in the Province.

Recess how employed.

200. From the end of March till November, no extended operations can be carried in the Berar Valley on account of the climate. The Vaccinators work in bodies under the Superintendents in the higher ranges of hills, as long as the weather permits, and are afterwards sent to the various Civil Hospitals to familiarize themselves with the more common forms of disease and injury, and their appropriate treatment, so as to be able to advise persons far removed from regular surgical and medical aid.

SECTION V.—FAIRS.

201. No Fairs of note have been mentioned in the Reports from East Berar.

The Commissioner of West Berar writes as follows:—

"The arrangements made by the District Officers to preserve order and cleanliness during the two large fairs at Dewalgaon (Boondanah District) and Nagurtass (Bassim District) have been attended with perfect success, and deserve special mention. There was no confusion, nor any serious thieving, and above all no sickness. The Fairs are loosing their importance and commercial utility by the rapid development of the province, and by its close alliance with Bombay, but they still combine very conveniently the attractions of religion, profit, and pleasure, though the ancient holy day is fast merging into the modern holiday.

Weekly Markets.

202. The weekly markets, which flourish exceedingly at all the towns and large villages, are of much importance to the country. By them are the wholesale prices regulated and retail prices kept at their natural level, and the rapid increase in quantity and kind of manufactured commodities now brought for sale at these bazars shows that the growing wealth of the rural population has created a demand for various small luxuries hitherto unknown, and for a better quality of all things consumed. A small cess is levied on stalls, and is spent in maintaining conservancy of the markets."

SECTION VI.—ARBORICULTURE.

203. The valley of Berar is known to be a very discouraging field for the prosecution of arboriculture. The soil and climate appear to favour the Babool tree alone, and accordingly the sowing of Babool seeds in most Districts forms the chief item of report in this Section. The condition of the tree nurseries established at the head-quarters of civil stations is scarcely noticed in the District Reports, from which I gather that the District Officers, with the memory of past abortive efforts before them, are cautious about chronicling attempts which may meet with a like fate. Yet it is mentioned that 340 acres of waste land in the interior of the Oomrawuttee District have been taken up for Babool plantation, and that the young trees of two plots are thriving. A good deal in the way of arboriculture has been attempted at the civil station of Oomrawuttee, but, unfortunately, favourable results are not anticipated owing to the impracticable nature of the soil, and the dry climate. Some teak seed sown in the Chandoor Talook of this District has germinated, and as a watering establishment is maintained, the plants are reported to be thriving.

In the Woon District two out of the three public gardens established are used as nurseries for young plants, and it is said that 300 trees planted during the year by the sides of the roads in the station of Yeotmahl are thriving. Of West Berar the only note worthy of record is that there are some thriving Babool coppices in the Akolah District.

SECTION VII.—TRADE STATISTICS.

Statistics of Exports and Imports.

204. For the registration of Trade Statistics, 24 out-posts in East and 9 in West Berar are maintained. The Returns show the following results for the year 1868-69:—

Goods.

	Weight. Tons.	Value. Rupees.	£.
Exports	121,527	5,26,33,224	5,263,322.
Imports	101,681	5,49,81,507	5,498,151.

Live Stock.

Exports	25,239	5,07,003	50,700.
Imports	62,683	3,45,737	34,574.

Exports and Imports across Western Frontier.

205. The subjoined Statement gives the Exports and Imports across that part of the Berar Frontier which bounds its Western Division. It includes all goods despatched and received at Railway stations:—

	Exports.			Imports.		
	Weight. Maunds, 82 lbs. each.	Value. Rupees.	£.	Weight. Maunds, 82 lbs. each.	Value. Rupees.	£.
Cotton	8,50,440	2,00,88,020	2,008,802	14,743	3,16,412	31,641
Sugar and Goor	5,775	94,901	9,490	54,975	7,25,928	72,593
Wheat	14,079	46,085	4,609	17,071	53,843	5,384
Rice	2,133	11,067	1,107	60,324	3,88,317	38,832
Other Grains	2,57,859	6,42,812	64,281	37,272	85,961	8,596
Oil Seeds	14,140	46,887	4,689	10,073	42,260	4,226
Metal and Hardware ...	2,671	1,28,944	12,894	98,532	48,45,824	4,845,824
English Piece Goods, and Country Cloths ...	5,725	4,16,712	41,671	30,054	24,30,793	243,079
Tobacco	2,459	35,071	3,507	1,186	26,515	2,652
Dyes	4,147	1,42,785	14,279	1,826	64,751	6,475
Timber and Wood... ...	7,201	97,283	9,728	69,281	1,45,069	14,507
Ghee and Oil	9,089	2,12,548	21,255	26,258	4,21,889	42,189
Opium	2,159	9,36,783	93,678	42	7,545	755
Miscellaneous	2,55,295	29,46,113	294,611	3,63,465	21,70,379	217,038
Total...	14,33,172	.....	.....	785,102	.....	.....
	No.			No.		
Horses, Cattle, and Sheep...	12,374	2,93,641	29,364	3,017	65,009	6,501
Total...	.....	2,61,39,652	2,613,965	.....	1,17,90,495	1,179,050

Excess of Exports over Imports explained.

206. There is very little transport of goods from one station to another within Berar, because wholesale commodities, if interchanged at all between the towns, are usually sent by road. In the above list, the goods despatched from Railway stations have, therefore, been entered as Exports, and goods received as Imports. The great overbalancing of Imports by Exports observed is assigned to two reasons:—

Firstly.—That the main current of exports from all Berar sets westward, so that goods from East Berar if not despatched from Railway stations in that Division would cross the western registry line.

Secondly.—That an immense proportion of raw produce is exported in exchange for specie which is not registered.

Exports and Imports across Eastern Frontier.

207. The results shown in the Eastern Division of Berar are as follows:—

	Exports.			Imports.		
	Weight. Maunds.	Value. Rupees.	£.	Weight. Maunds.	Value. Rupees.	£.
Cotton... ...	628,827	1,40,15,742	1,401,574	116,949	18,45,979	184,597
Sugar and Goor... ...	10,661	1,32,283	13,228	117,027	15,05,916	150,591
Salt... ...	27,178	1,39,662	13,966	128,717	8,59,161	85,916
Wheat... ...	65,940	1,96,584	19,658	130,645	20,28,187	202,818
Rice... ...	19,258	95,183	9,518	116,736	6,90,586	69,058
Other edible grains... ...	276,093	8,26,338	82,633	88,568	2,43,652	24,365
Oil Seeds... ...	46,011	1,77,466	17,746	74,990	2,43,179	24,317
Metals and Hardware ...	5,863	17,85,892	178,589	65,218	83,38,688	833,868
English Piece Goods ...	8,611	8,61,280	86,128	34,223	28,16,931	281,693
Miscellaneous European Goods... ...	1,024	98,067	9,806	4,396	3,37,699	33,769
Country Cloth... ...	22,907	26,38,631	263,863	33,982	31,19,716	311,971
Lac... ...	915	47,086	4,708	4,024	1,85,618	18,561
Tobacco... ...	20,521	2,94,403	29,440	4,741	42,094	4,209
Spices... ...	6,783	22,51,251	225,125	65,031	24,17,990	241,799
Silk and Silk Cocoons ...	846	4,70,608	47,060	3,505	14,96,040	149,604
Dyes... ...	6,416	3,51,296	35,129	23,778	9,31,160	93,116
Hides and Horns ...	1,688	42,881	4,288	3,785	80,205	8,020
Wool... ...	862	13,698	1,369	3,348	31,246	3,124
Timber and Wood... ...	51,942	80,286	8,028	185,374	1,86,122	18,612
Ghee and Oil... ...	13,222	4,47,008	44,700	32,570	6,15,062	61,506
Opium... ...	418	2,83,951	28,395	4,733	79,14,561	791,456
Miscellaneous ...	126,577	11,75,605	117,560	443,556	21,27,310	212,731
Total...	1,342,563	....	.....	1,685,896	.....	.....
	No.					
Cattle, Sheep, and Horses...	12,865	2,13,362	21,336	59,666	2,80,728	28,072
Total.....	.....	2,66,38,563	2,663,856	.....	3,83,37,830	3,833,783

496 maunds of Government Stores, and 142,432 maunds of Railway Stores have been excluded from the above.

Exports and Imports at Railway Stations.

208. The Exports and Imports at the several Railway stations of Berar are given below :—

			Tons.	£.
CHANDORE	Exports	... ...	1,266	53,487
	Imports	... ...	1,436	63,713
	Total Trade...		2,702	117,200
BUDNEIRA	Exports	... ...	17,471	1,012,180
	Imports	... ...	17,853	554,092
	Total Trade...		35,324	1,566,272
MOORTIZAPOOR	Exports	... ...	7,625	332,540
	Imports	... ...	3,667	179,967
	Total Trade...		11,292	512,507
AKOLAH	Exports	... ...	4,505	122,927
	Imports	... ...	5,199	244,927
	Total Trade...		9,704	367,854
SHEOGAON	Exports	... ...	16,756	905,685
	Imports	... ...	11,462	386,780
	Total Trade...		28,218	1,292,465
NANDOORA	Exports	... ...	16,836	923,565
	Imports	... ...	6,701	266,918
	Total Trade...		23,537	1,190,483
MULKAPORE	Exports	... ...	1,936	31,532
	Imports	... ...	2,172	69,549
	Total Trade...		4,108	101,081

CHAPTER XIII.

NOTICE OF OFFICERS.

209. It has been the custom to make special mention of those Officers whose good services have been brought most prominently to notice; and in concluding this brief review of a year of decided progress, I gladly avail myself of the opportunity of testifying to the merits of the gentlemen who have been chiefly associated with myself in the work recorded.

210. Previous Reports have borne witness to the very efficient manner in which the Divisional Commissioners, Major W. Nembhard and Mr. A. C. Lyall, superintend the administration in all departments of the Districts under their care. The vigour and judgment displayed by these Officers in all that relates to progress are accompanied by an active sympathy with the feelings and wishes of the community at large. I would also record my special acknowledgment of the excellent reports furnished by Mr. Lyall.

Until Major Nembhard's return from furlough last November, Colonel J. Stubbs continued to officiate as Commissioner of East Berar, and to merit the commendation earned by him in that capacity during the previous year.

Mr. Lyall having been absent on leave for six months of the year 1868, Major J. Allardyce, a Deputy Commissioner possessed of judgment, long experience, and much local knowledge, was appointed to officiate in his place as Commissioner of West Berar.

211. The Deputy Commissioners and Assistant Commissioners who have held charge of Districts, have all done well. Among the former, Captain J. G. Bell at Oomrawuttee, and Captain R. Hudleston at Akolah, as having successfully managed the two most important Districts, deserve special mention. Captain J. T. Bushby of Woon is also a good officer, liked by the people of his district. Mr. C. Hordern, Captain H. Szczepanski, and Lieutenant K. J. L. Mackenzie have shown administrative aptitude, and have given satisfaction in their respective charges of Booldanah, Ellichpoor, and Bassim. Mr. Hordern is now in charge of the Akolah District, Captain Hudleston having proceeded to England on furlough.

212. Captains C. E. O. Mayne, J. Fitzgerald, and A. Farrer, Lieutenants R. Bullock and F. W. Grant, may be named among the Assistant Commissioners who have done well in District work; and Captains A. Menzies and D. W. Laughton merit special notice for the manner in which they have conducted the duties of the Small Cause Courts at Oomrawuttee and Ellichpore. Mr. Bymanjee Jamasjee is said to be a valuable Officer of high personal character and possessing intimate knowledge of the country. Mr. Ruttonjee Jamasjee, officiating as Assistant Commissioner, is also entitled to praise for the manner in which he has conducted and concluded the Inam Enquiries in East Berar. The careful research employed by Mr. Extra Assistant Commissioner J. H. Burns in similar enquiries in West Berar, is worthy of acknowledgment.

Mr. C. A. W. Davies, Extra Assistant Commissioner, has conducted the Currency Department from its beginning with such success as its limited action could expect, and has made some useful suggestions with regard to its extension.

I have again to acknowledge the services of Mr. G. A. Boswell, who for many years past has superintended the Residency Offices at Hyderabad in a manner which has obtained high commendation in former Administration Reports.

The work of the Judicial Extra Assistant Commissioners has been already noticed. These Officers have all earned favourable opinions. Mr. Sri Krishn's industry at Argaon is very creditable to him.

213. The Tahsildars are nearly all well spoken of by the Commissioners. Those specially recommended are Ram Rao Govind, Govind Rao, Abdul Baree, Sooltan Moheoodeen, and Bhasker Rao.

214. Major A. H. Millett, the very efficient Inspector General of Police, was obliged to take leave to England in September 1868. His place has been filled by Captain C. T. Lane, who has manifested marked zeal and ability. Messrs. F. W. Wright, N. R. Cumberlege, and Captain C. Jameson have done good work as District Superintendents.

215. The Educational Department under the direction of R. S. Sinclair, Esq., L. L. D., has secured the most satisfactory results, the consolidation of which so as to dispel the prejudices and win the sympathies of the people is receiving careful attention. The Deputy Educational Inspectors are all highly reported of, especially Mr. Sriram Bhickajee Jatar, B. A., and Mr. Chimnajee Rajaram Pathuk. Mr. J. Scorgie, F. C. S., and Mr. G. C. Aitkin

the Head Masters of the High Schools at Akolah and Oomrawuttee, have continued to perform their duties in a satisfactory manner.

216. The varied attainments and zealous attention with which Deputy Inspector General E. G. Balfour discharges his duties of supervision in respect to the Medical Staff of Berar are known to the Government. I have specially to acknowledge the earnestness he has shown in trying to overcome the difficulty of procuring good assistants for the purpose of adding to the number of Dispensaries in the Province.

Among the officers in Civil Medical charge of districts, Dr. A. Porter at Akolah is named as entitled to special mention. Dr. Porter superintends the Akolah Central Jail in addition to his other duties as Civil Surgeon.

217. The thanks of the Administration are due to those Heads of Departments in the Central Provinces, who have been charged with the duty of giving a portion of their time and attention to the Establishments under their control in the Hyderabad Assigned Districts: viz., to Dr. R. T. Abbott, the Inspector General of Jails and Dispensaries: Dr. S. C. Townsend, Sanitary Commissioner: Dr. J. Brake, Superintendent General of Vaccination: Colonel F. L. Magniac, Registrar General: Lieutenant Doveton, who succeeded Major Pearson, the able Conservator of Forests now employed under the Government of the North-West Provinces.

218. The Public Works Department has been under the direction of Major C. J. Mead, a most conscientious hard working officer, who adds to his qualifications as a good practical Engineer considerable zeal and energy. As Secretary to the Resident in the Public Works Department, Major Mead has a further claim to my most cordial acknowledgment of the good service he has rendered.

Captain G. Swetenham, R. E., who has had charge of the Military Buildings at Trimulgherry as a 1st Class Executive Engineer, has deserved well of the Local Government by the energetic and successful manner in which he has superintended the important works under his direction, a duty in which he has been ably seconded by Mr. A. D. Campbell, Executive Engineer, 3rd Class.

Mr. A. Izat has given much satisfaction as Executive Engineer of the West Berar Division.

219. The progress made in the Revenue Survey under the general superintendence of Major C. J. Prescott, officiating as Commissioner of the Bombay Survey, and more immediately under the

able direction of Major P. A. Elphinstone, the local Superintendent, will be viewed with satisfaction.

220. In referring to the operations of the Customs Department, I have to express my sense of the ability of the Commissioner, Mr. A. O. Hume, C. B., and of the valuable services and energy of Mr. F. W. Vere, the Deputy Commissioner.

221. The Post Master General of Bombay, Mr. F. Hogg, merits the thanks of the Administration for his courtesy and assistance.

222. The Government are well aware of the obligations of the Province towards Mr. H. Rivett-Carnac, as regards all matters, directly or indirectly, pertaining to the cultivation and transport of cotton. Mr. Carnac's services as Cotton Commissioner are worthy of very high praise, and are now well known and appreciated beyond the limits of the Central Provinces and Berar.

223. As Deputy Accountant General, Mr. Simpson Byrne maintained the favorable reputation ascribed to him in former Reports.

224. The transfer of the business of the Residency Treasury to the Branch Bank of Bengal having taken effect from the commencement of the year under report, I deem it but due to Mr. J. Seymour Keay, the Local Agent of that Institution, to place on record the high sense I entertain of the financial ability, zeal, and skill with which he has conducted the duties of the Treasury Department.

225. In last year's Report Mr. H. C. Fowler was mentioned as "the very capable Accountant of the Resident's Office." In this capacity, and in other ways, he has continued to be of much assistance. Messrs. C. Prayero (Head Clerk), Poorshotum Rao, Clerk of the Resident's Court, and Ameeroodeen, Meer Moonshee, have rendered excellent service as Ministerial Subordinates.

226. I cannot conclude this Report without placing on record the obligations I am under to the Officers of my own personal Staff for the valuable and efficient services which they have rendered during the past year. It was my pleasing duty last year to bring prominently to the notice of Government the efficient assistance which I had from Mr. J. G. Cordery, of the Bengal Civil Service, the able First Assistant to the Resident, but owing to ill-health that Officer was reluctantly obliged to proceed in the month of September 1868 to England on medical certificate.

227. His place has been well supplied by Captain W. Tweedie, who has been long attached to the Residency Staff as Second Assistant. Having considerable experience, acquired not only at Hyderabad, but also during the Abyssinian Campaign, when he

served as Political Secretary to Lord Napier of Magdala, he has been enabled to afford me much valuable aid during the somewhat critical period which ensued after the demise of His Highness Afzool-ood-Dowlah the late Nizam, and he has at all times given me his most cordial and efficient assistance in all matters connected with the Administration of the Hyderabad Assigned Districts.

228. In my last Report I expressed my great regret at losing the services of Lieutenant G. H. Trevor of the Madras Staff Corps, who had reverted to his appointment in the Central Provinces on the return of Lieutenant Tweedie from the Abyssinian Campaign. The promotion of the latter officer to officiate as First Assistant enabled me once more to secure the services of the former Officer for the Local Administration. He has proved himself an efficient Magistrate as Superintendent of the Residency Bazaars, and has at all times afforded me as Second Assistant much valuable assistance not only in the conduct of current business, but more notably in the preparation of the present Report. I look upon Mr. Trevor as an able and very promising Officer.

229. It was my pleasing duty on Major General S. C. Briggs resigning the appointment of Military Secretary after an incumbency of 15 years on his promotion to his present Army rank, to bring prominently to the notice of the Supreme Government the highly valuable services which he had rendered to several successive Residents, and lastly to myself, and as those services were most handsomely acknowledged by the late Viceroy, it will be unnecessary for me to dwell further on the subject on the present occasion. Major General Briggs has been worthily succeeded by Major Hastings Fraser, who having previously been attached to the Hyderabad Contingent Cavalry for some years and during the Central India Campaign, and having subsequently been on the Residency Staff as Second Assistant, and for some time as Officiating First Assistant, but obliged through ill-health to vacate his appointment on a second visit to Europe, had acquired a strong personal—as he enjoyed through his late able and respected father, Major General J. S. Fraser, who was for more than 14 years British Resident at this Court, an hereditary—claim for re-employment on the Residency Staff.

230. My acknowledgments are due to Captain A. H. E. Campbell, commanding my Escort, not so much for his not very onerous duties in that capacity, but more especially for the efficient manner in which he has conducted the duties of Secretary to the Chudderghaut Municipal Committee, and for the zealous co-operation which he has afforded to Mr. Trevor not only in

superintending and enforcing the Conservancy arrangements of the Residency Bazaars, for which he has shown great aptitude, but also in having recently undertaken a fair share of the Magisterial and Civil duties of the Superintendent of the above Bazaars.

231. In conclusion I would beg to offer to Dr. S. J. Wyndowe my warm acknowledgments for the ability, zeal, and efficiency with which he has conducted the duties which devolve upon the Residency Surgeon during a season when Cholera has been rife, and has numbered many victims. As President of the Hyderabad Medical School his services have been most indefatigable and praiseworthy, and are most gratefully acknowledged not only by the pupils he has educated, but also by the Government of His Highness the Nizam, and the people of the country.

HYDERABAD RESIDENCY,
29th September 1869.

CHARLES B. SAUNDERS,
Resident.

BENGAL SECRETARIAT LIBRARY.

Abstract Statement of Receipts and Disbursements of

	REVENUES AND RECEIPTS.	Amount of Receipt.
		Rupees.
I.	Land Revenue	45,02,546
III.	Forest	84,556
IV.	Abkaree	8,97,221
VI.	Customs	3,14,055
VII.	Salt	9,000
IX.	Stamps	4,59,405
XIII.	Law and Justice	73,160
XIV.	Police	62,147
XVI.	Education	17,028
XVII.	Interest	1,150
XVIII.	Miscellaneous	17,222
	Total Civil Department.....	64,37,490
	MILITARY DEPARTMENT.	
3	Regimental Pay, Allowances, and Charges.....	467
4	Commissariat Establishment, Supplies, and Services	3
5	Stud and Remount Establishments, Supplies, and Services	1,739
6	Clothing Establishments, Supplies, and Services	.....
7	Barrack Establishments, Supplies, and Services	.....
9	Medical Establishments, Supplies, and Services	268
10	Ordnance Establishments, Stores, and Camp Equipage	9,645
14	Miscellaneous	33
	Total Military Department.....	12,155
	PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.	
	Public Works Revenue	1,982
	Total Public Works Department.....	1,982
	Grand Total Receipts.....	64,51,627
		(£645,163)

N. B.—The payment of ten lacs mentioned in para. 150 of the Report is not in-

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY ACCOUNTANT GENERAL,
HYDERABAD,
Bolarum,———August 1869.

DIX No. I.

the Hyderabad Assigned Districts, for the Year 1868-69.

	EXPENDITURE.	Amount of Expenditure.
		Rupees.
3	Interest on Service Funds, and other Accounts	2,100
4	Allowances, Refunds, and Drawbacks	22,824
5	Land Revenue	6,81,684
6	Forest	31,660
9	Customs	1,47,164
10	Salt	.....
12	Stamps	18,104
13	Mint	.....
17	Administration and Public Departments	1,79,400
18	Law and Justice	1,29,226
19	Police	4,68,594
21	Education, Science, and Art	2,18,341
22	Ecclesiastical	11,210
23	Medical Services	47,944
24	Stationery and Printing	17,352
26	Allowances and Assignments under Treaties and Engagements.	1,67,084
27	Miscellaneous	90,247
28	Superannuations	7,320
	Total Civil Department.....	22,40,254
	MILITARY DEPARTMENT.	
1	Army and Garrison Staff	45,042
2	Administrative Staff	1,392
3	Regimental Pay and Allowances	21,86,640
4	Commissariat Establishments, Supplies, and Services	1,97,728
5	Stud and Remount Establishments, Supplies, and Services	19,200
6	Clothing Establishment, &c.	52,982
7	Barrack Establishment, &c.	940
8	Administration and Martial Law	3,734
9	Medical Establishments, Supplies, and Services	31,328
10	Ordnance Establishments, Stores, and Camp Equipage	81,444
14	Miscellaneous Services	57,422
16	Rewards for Military Services	10,933
18	Military Pensions	2,10,606
19	Widows Pension and Compassionate Allowances	313
20	Superannuation Pensions and Gratuities	149
	Total Military Department.....	28,99,853
	PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.	
	Original Works	3,71,149
	Repairs	11,578
	Establishments	96,778
	Tools and Plant	2,929
	Total Public Works Department.....	4,82,434
	Grand Total Expenditure.....	56,22,541
		(£562,254)

cluded in this Statement, but charged under the head of Berar Surplus Account.

J. E. COOKE,

Deputy Accountant General,

Hyderabad